THE

PALL MALL GAZETTE

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HAS HE NOT CAUSE?

Mr. Michael Davitt is angry, but has he not cause? The way in which the *Daily News* received his frank warning as to the dissatisfaction with which the Irish peasant is regarding the apathetic attitude of the Liberal party, increased, if that were possible, the sense of shame which every earnest Liberal feels when he reflects that our contemporary is absolutely the only morning paper in London which claims to be an organ of the party of progress. The limpness of the *Daily News*, its utter lack of enthusiasm, and total want of sympathy with everything that has not the hall mark of the Liberal front bench, make it a sore discouragement and a constant reproach to the party which it is supposed to represent. But it has seldom sinned so flagrantly against what ought to be the first law of a Liberal's being, as when it sneered at Michael Davitt for not being in gaol, denounced him as a firebrand for warning the public of the existence of grave discontent, and ostentatiously repudiated his support.

Mr. Davitt now writes to the *Daily News* to explain why he is wroth. He says:—

> I persist in my belief that the English Liberal party should, and could, if it were so minded, take steps to save England the shame and the reproach of having its name and its laws associated with a vandal warfare against the homes of an unfortunate people, who are not at war with the English people, and who are forbidden by you and others from resorting to violence, even in defence of these homes, because to do so would injure the Liberal party.

He says that there are 50,000 tenants liable to eviction in Ireland at the present moment for arrears of rent. The harvest will not yield the rent, let alone the arrears. The winter is therefore likely to be a bad one. But, says Mr. Davitt, "if England were appealed to by the Liberal party with "half the vehement indignation which characterized the "Bulgarian atrocity agitation, I believe that Mr. Balfour's "underlings would curb to some extent the inhumanity "of their actions when carrying out their law in Ireland." Now Mr. Davitt may be wrong in this, but his critics do not tell us in what way they propose to deal with the difficulty that weighs upon his mind, and distracts the Irish peasantry. They ignore the difficulty, which in other words means that they abandon the peasants to the uncovenanted mercies of Mr. Balfour's eviction brigade. If our leaders do the same after they return from their holidays, Mr. Davitt's bodeful warnings will come true. Desperate men, who find the Liberal alliance not a shield but a handcuff, will defend their homesteads, even if in so doing they should damage the electoral chances of English Home Rulers.

It is a distinct service to the Liberal party to warn them of this danger, and Michael Davitt deserved thanks rather than insults for sounding the tocsin betimes. This is the view which will be taken by the Liberals generally when they appreciate the facts of the situation. Already some of the more energetic of the provincial papers have begun to protest against the prevailing apathy. The *Newcastle Leader*, before Mr. Davitt had spoken, had written an article entitled "Do we really care?" from which we make the following pertinent quotation:—

> The public either do not realize the position or they do not care. The Unionists are either right in their boast that the country is with them, or, if they are not, the country has a precious queer way of showing its faith in the cause over which the next political battle will rage. If the English democracy only realized what is being done in the name of law and order we have sufficient faith in their sense of right and their humanity to say their protest would go up to heaven in thunder tones instead of feeble whispers as now. Is it really the case that our people are cowed by the despotic daring and the callous cynicism of the Castle's tool, Mr. Balfour? Are we who struck the lion down in Bulgaria to crouch before the wolf in Ireland? Once more we ask, Are there any numbers of us here who really care for Ireland and for the persecution of her sons, or is all this cry about Home Rule and our determination to see justice done a hideous sham? The answer can be given in two ways. If we do not care, then let there be the same apathy as hitherto. If we do care, let a meeting be held, and a protest sent up from every town hall and village square in these Northern counties. And let it be done at once.

That is tolerably plain speaking. Not less significant is the stern and dignified reproof which the *Manchester Guardian* administers to the *Daily News*. It says:—

> Mr. Davitt may have spoken roughly, but, after all, has he not some reason on his side? Something like ten thousand "eviction-made-easy" notices have been served under the new Act and are fast maturing, and ten thousand Irish families will soon be in daily and hourly peril of being deprived of the property which by right and law is theirs, and thrust out upon the roadside. On English Liberals there is placed a double duty. First, to do their utmost by publicity and by the pressure of public opinion, enlightened as to the facts, to deter the Government and the Irish Executive from carrying out a ferocious policy of legalized confiscation to the bitter end. Or, should they fail in this effort and the bad work go on, then they must see to it that the English people realize who it is who are the wrong-doers in the conflict which must follow and on whom rests the responsibility for social anarchy and ruin.

This, we are convinced, is what every real Liberal in the country will agree with, as sound sense and simple truth. What we have to insist upon is that leaders and rank and file alike should give prompt and energetic effect to their convictions.

THE TERRIBLE VOLCANIC ERUPTION IN JAPAN

(From our Travelling Commissioner.)

Tōkyō, July 25th, 1888.

On the morning of the 16th instant the appalling news reached Tōkyō that an enormous volcano had exploded somewhere in the north of Japan, killing and wounding a thousand people. Japan is the earthquake country of the world, but familiarity with cataclysms, as experience has shown, breeds anything but contempt, the moral effect of them being cumulative rather than diminishing; and this news was received with something like consternation, as possibly foreshadowing a general renascence of volcanic activity. The outbreak had occurred in a group of three mountains, in a remote part of the interior, forming part of the great volcanic ridge running north and south through the country, the chief of them being Bandai-san, situated on the shore of Lake Inawashiro, in the province of Iwashiro, in the prefecture of Ken of Fukushima, about two hundred miles north of Tōkyō and midway between sea and sea. Besides the difficulty of obtaining accurate information, such an event is among the very rarest experiences of life, and a party was hastily formed to visit the scenes of the catastrophe. It consisted of Captain Brinkley, R.A., the editor and proprietor of the *Japan Daily Mail*, the leading English newspaper in this part of the East; Major-General Palmer, R.E., the Tōkyō correspondent of the *Times*; Captain Münter, the Armstrongs' representative in the East; two gentlemen from Yokohama; and myself, with the official interpreter the Government has done me the honour to attach to me for my stay here.

Off to the Scene of the Disaster.

One of the excellent lines of railway in Japan runs from Ueno, on the outskirts of Tōkyō, nearly due north for 224 miles, passing through the province of Fukushima. Nine hours in the narrow-gauge cars, which are midway between the English and American models in their construction, brought us to the little town of Motomiya, which was the limit of the itinerary we had been able to determine upon before leaving Tōkyō. From here we set out next morning for a ride of about 30 miles in jinrikishas to the village of Inawashiro, from which Bandai-san could be reached on foot or on horseback. The coolie rule is fifteen minutes' rest every two hours, and from six to eight our twenty runners jogged steadily on, their bare legs and bare arms moving with an almost unvarying rhythm, encouraging one another with short sharp cries, or passing the word along to warn against a stone or a hole in the road. The men who are pulling the heaviest man always take the lead, and as our railway magnate weighed something under twenty stone our pace was decidedly moderate. Still, the road was good, the coolies were fresh, the morning air was cool and bracing, and it was just eight o'clock as we spurted up a slope and sharply round a corner to the tea-house in the village of Iwanimura, rather less than four *ri* from Motomiya—say nine miles in two hours.

The First Echo of the Eruption.

From this point every mile took us uphill and the landscape rapidly became more broken and rugged, until in two hours' time, when we ran into the village of Takatama, the country resembled the rolling foothills of the Rocky Mountains, except that instead of being bare and brown it was covered to the hill-tops with brilliant verdure. Here we received our first information of the eruption. A terrible noise, the people said, had reached them, lasting nearly an hour, and they had all deserted the village and fled, expecting to be overwhelmed. But the noise was all, and by and by they returned. At Takatama we were nearly half way to Inawashiro, and over the best part of the road we had come fifteen miles in three hours and a half of actual travelling. Here the peasants were engaged in the culture of silk: hundreds of flat mat-baskets filled with bushels of

cocoons lay about the houses, and through every door we caught a glimpse of men and women reeling the silk thread upon primitive wooden spinning wheels. As we got further from the ordinary roads of travel, too, dress ceased almost entirely to differentiate sex: men and women, boys and girls, alike wore the blouse and tight trousers of rough blue cotton. It would seem, therefore, that civilization emphasizes sex—a nut perhaps for some of our more radical reformers to crack. Given unceasing and wholly unimaginative labour for both, and the sentimental distinctions between man and women are obliterated. "Segregation is asexual," remarked our professor, sententiously. Another curious fact that struck me was the apparent great preponderance of boys over girls among the children.

A Halt at a Deserted Village.

The road had now become very bad and hilly. Soon our men stopped at the foot of a broken ascent and pointing upwards told us that there was a short cut for us, while they must go round by the road. The climb was several hundred yards at an angle of forty-five degrees, by the side of a cascade which poured out of a round hole a few yards from the top. When we reached the top we found that this was fed from an irrigating canal four or five miles long from Lake Inawashiro, excellently built and bridged with stone and provided with admirable modern sluice-gates. That the remote parts of the country should thus contain public works of first-class engineering reflects great credit on the Japanese authorities. At our next halting-place, the village of Yamagata, on the shore of Lake Inawashiro, the dark shiro at last, at the farther end of the lane, we found that accommodation, not palatial perhaps, as the village is a small and poor one, but much the best to be had, was provided for us at the house of Mr. Matsui Ginzaburo, the rich man of the place, who kept what we should call at home a general provision and crockery store. Our first impulse was toward a bath, and while appreciating to the full Mr. Ginzaburo's very hospitable intentions, I must say that all the forty smells of Cologne compressed into one quintessential abomination, would rank with the perfumes of Araby in comparison with the paralyzing putrefaction which penetrated into his family bath-room from heaven knows where. For my part, after the first deadly experience, during the three days that we spent under his roof I remained unbathed. But the principal thing was that we had arrived and that we could lie down side by side to sleep in the black shadow of death-dealing Bandai.

The Ascent of the Fatal Mountain.

The village of Inawashiro, from which we started next morning, is situated at the base of the volcano opposite to that on which the violence of the eruption expended itself, and therefore it escaped injury. It was up this uninjured side of the mountain that we proposed to ascend, and for the first five miles our road was smooth and shaded, leading us through pleasant ascents and between cultivated fields. Then we struck off into the short green scrub, excellent pheasant cover, by the way, and three miles of this, along a narrow track used by the peasants when cutting fodder for their horses, brought us to the beginning of the ascent

THE SUMMIT OF SHO-BANDAI-SAN AFTER THE EXPLOSION.—(From a Photograph by our Commissioner.)

group around Bandai-san lowered more distinctly in sight to our right; and an obliging Japanese official, already on his way back from the scene, drew plan after plan of the catastrophe for us with his pen and little box of water-colours, as deftly and rapidly as only a Japanese can. At four o'clock we left him with his tea and telescope and pushed on round the lake, over a road so bad that it was constantly necessary to walk, until at last it degenerated into a mere path among the narrow paddy-fields. A deserted village, Tsubo-oroshi, literally "the place for putting down the pots," showed the remaining effects of panic. The inhabitants had fled, the little shops were closed, the *amado*, or outside rain-doors, were slid in front of all the houses, and the place was silent and forlorn as though a pestilence had descended upon it.

Sleep "in the Shadow of Death-dealing Bandai."

In the midst of the next half-deserted village an official from Inawashiro, our destination, was waiting for us, hat in hand. His Excellency Count Ito, President of the Privy Council, had shown me the distinguished courtesy of causing an official letter to be sent to the *Kenrei* or Governor of the Prefecture, requesting him to afford me any assistance or hospitality. Captain Brinkley, moreover, holds a high place in the estimation of the Japanese Government, and his presence would in any case have secured for us all every consideration. Consequently on reaching Inawa-proper. The climb now became really fatiguing; it was so steep that an alpenstock was almost necessary, and occasionally hands had to come to the rescue of feet; the path wound in and out round trees and over torrents and stones; recent rains had made it slippery with mud, and all the while a tropical sun was beating straight down upon our heads.

We Scent the Sulphur in the Air.

For an hour and a half, too, there were no more signs of a volcano than there are in Kent or the Catskills; then suddenly our leaders stopped short. We looked about us; there was a smell of sulphur in the air; the leaves at our side were coated with impalpable grey ashes; and there within a few steps was a small crater twenty feet wide, a conical hole blown out as though a hundred pound shell had exploded underground. The first burst had of course exhausted the slight volcanic energy at this point and the bottom of the craterkin was entirely closed. Curiously enough, too, the explosion had been in a lateral direction, trees and shrubs having been blown away, and those left half buried in mud, while a fine tree directly over head was not only uninjured but not even bespattered. It was only a small affair, but it was our first sight of the actual operation of the volcanic forces of nature, the most mysterious and dreadful forces that man knows, and a thrill ran through us as we stood around the mud hole.

WE REACH A "GREY AND STINKING WILDERNESS."

Then we resumed our climb and half a mile more brought us to the midst of the volcanic activity. In every direction were crater-like holes of different sizes; the trees had been twisted off and split and buried and hurled about; five or six inches of sticky grey mud covered everything; we sank ankle-deep in it at every step and every now and then as we still climbed, one of the party would struggle back as he found himself sinking deeper, and shout a warning to the rest to avoid the dangerous spot. Pools of dark yellow sulphurous water, small lakes, some of them, had been formed wherever the soil was flat enough for water to rest, and of all the bright turf and foliage which had beautified the spot a few days before, not a single blade or square inch of green was left. It would be impossible—so, at least, we thought then—to imagine a completer picture of utter desolation than this grey and stinking wilderness, all the more terrible that the form of landscape was vaguely preserved in it, just as a mutilated corpse is the more horrible because it cannot mask entirely the graciousness of the living body. Silently and laboriously, panting and perspiring, we plod upwards, watching every heavy step. We are in single file, a guide leading, and I am third in the line. Surely we cannot get much higher, for the mountain seems to end abruptly just above us. The guide is on the top, the man behind him struggles up, seeking a place for his feet. Then as he raises his head, his body being half above the edge, he stops short like a man shot, and slowly and in an awe-stricken tone the words fall from his lips—"Good God!" Those of us below shout to him to pass on, and in irresistible excitement and curiosity we scramble up anyhow.

WE GAZE FROM THE SUMMIT ON A SEA OF MUD.

We found ourselves standing upon the ragged edge of what was left of the mountain of Bandai-san after two-thirds of it, including of course the summit, had been literally blown away and spread over the face of the country. Or, to employ the terminology of geometry, the original cone of the mountain had been truncated at an acute angle to its axis, and we were standing upon the flattened apex of the resulting cone. It must be borne in mind, of course, that we had of necessity approached the focus of the eruption from behind, the volcanic energy having exerted itself laterally and not vertically. From our very feet a precipitous mud slope falls away for half a mile or more till it reaches the level: at our right, still below us, rises a mud wall a mile long, also sloping down to the level, and behind it is evidently the crater, for great clouds and gusts of steam are pouring over it; beneath us on our left is a little table-land of mud on which a few pools have formed. But before us, for five miles in a straight line, and on each side nearly as far, is a sea of congealed mud, broken up into ripples and waves and great billows, and bearing upon its bosom, like monstrous ships becalmed upon the fantastic ocean of some cyclopean nightmare, a thousand huge boulders weighing many hundreds of tons apiece. The sunlight is reflected in weird tints from the pools and lakes; one larger lake is all that is left of a river buried at a blow; where the mud has been coated with ashes it is of a dull grey tint, elsewhere in spots it is dark red; on one side of this awful expanse, a couple of miles away from us—remember always the colossal scale of the eruption—a stretch of bright green meadows sparkles in the sun; on the other a dark pine forest shows how the sea of mud had rolled up to its foot and actually stopped there almost touching the trunks of the trees; and straight in front of us, five miles away, we can just discern an exit into a long green valley behind which again rose the mountains, range upon range, dark and grand and solemn, till they pierce the cloudless skies.

THE BATHS OF SHIMO-NO-YU BURIED IN BOILING MUD.

But the little table-land below us on the left—what was that? We knew, but who shall tell its tale? It marked the site of the medicinal hot springs of Shimo-no-yu, where a hamlet of invalid visitors, forty or more in number, had been taking the waters, and now springs and hamlet and visitors lie buried under twenty feet of mud, and a few foul puddles form their only monument and epitaph. Eight o'clock in the morning of a bright fresh summer's day; the little place busy with the guests taking their first daily bath; comparing notes, no doubt, as invalids do, of their respective progress towards restored health; the awful rumbling of the earthquake; the explosion, followed instantly by the darkness of death as the cloud of ashes fills the air; one scream of utter terror and despair, and ere it dies away the fall of the sea of boiling mud; then everlasting silence. There is no reason for exhuming them, and no human eye will ever look upon them again to learn the details of their agony. We turn away, for it is impossible to watch these puddles flickering in the sun and think of the poor souls beneath and their awful realization of a *dies irae*.

A MUD PRECIPICE OF 1,000 FEET.

To find a spot sufficiently free from mud for us to sit down and open the tiffin-basket we had to descend a few hundred yards. Then we returned to the same spot and climbed cautiously over the edge and down the slope, our object being to reach the top of the mud-wall I have described as being on our right and from behind which the steam was rising from the crater itself. The mud was in great cakes and boulders, resting upon the great mass of it beneath—exactly, in fact, like a choppy sea suddenly solidified. The walking, therefore, or rather scrambling, was difficult, and the surface of the mud treacherous. By chance when we had descended far enough in a straight line and turned off to the right to climb to the wall of the crater, two of us happened to be in advance of the rest. Slowly and cautiously we approached the edge, testing the masses of mud before us at every step. At last, side by side and on our hands and knees, we looked over. The mud wall upon the edge of which we stood, sank straight down out of sight into the depths of the abyss and actually shelved in underneath us, so that we were suspended over the seething crater upon no support stronger than overhanging mud, neither solid nor tenacious. Needless to say that after a single brief look we beat a gingerly but hasty retreat. And none too soon, for there between us and the rest of the party was a long crack several inches wide. But that minute's look will never be forgotten by either of us. For a thousand feet the mud precipice rose straight up to our feet; the crater from which it sprang was probably a mile wide; from a dozen half-visible openings the steam was issuing with the noise of a distant waterfall, while the chief orifice of the crater was altogether hidden by the cloud of steam above it; and whenever the vapour was dissipated for a moment we could see the liquid mud at the bottom, apparently still seething in great disturbance and commotion. The colossal scale of it all, the more than Alpine precipice, the ocean of mud, the buried village, the heat, the steam, the noise, the attempt to picture in imagination the scene when the earth had been thus burst and riven and scattered and convulsed, and the solid land had melted and flowed out as the sea,—all these combined to produce an impression of awe and stupefaction which nothing subsequent can ever efface and with which no previous experiences of life afford the slightest comparison.

THEORY OF THE ERUPTION.—A COLOSSAL BOILER EXPLOSION.

We were the first foreigners to make thus a rough but fairly complete examination of the scene of the eruption, and when we started for our long walk home later in the afternoon, after I had photographed our party descending to the crater, and had attempted without much success to secure views of the precipice and the sea of mud, we were in a position to say with some confidence just what had happened. These conclusions, I may say here, were confirmed and corrected by the narratives of the survivors whom we interviewed the next day among the ruins of the villages at the foot of the mountain on the side opposite to that we had ascended. The main facts of the eruption are these: At the point of the manifestation of volcanic activity the mountain range consists of three peaks which are often spoken of together as Bandai-san, but consists properly of Bandai-san, 5,800 feet, a somewhat smaller mountain known as Sho-Bandai-san, and a third larger again, called Nekomatadake. The eruption had taken place in the smaller central one of the three, and Sho-Bandai-san has disappeared from the face of the earth. The explosion was caused by steam, there was neither fire nor lava of any kind—it was in fact neither more nor less than a colossal boiler explosion. The whole top and one side of Sho-bandai-san had been blown into the air in a lateral direction and the earth of the mountain was converted by the escaping steam at the moment of the explosion into boiling mud, part of which was projected into the air to fall a long distance and then take the form of an overflowing river, and part of which rushed down with inconceivable speed and resistless force and poured over the face of the country to a depth varying from twenty to a hundred and fifty feet. Thirty square miles of country were devastated and practically buried by this eruption, a fact which places it, as I said, among the most stupendous on record.

(To be continued.)

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE SEANCE AT CHEYNE-ROW.

To the EDITOR *of the* PALL MALL GAZETTE.

DEAR SIR,—With reference to the long account which you publish of the séance with Mrs. Katie Fox-Jencken in the *Pall Mall Gazette* of September 10, permit me to make a slight correction. You make me say that the spirit of Thomas Moore had played and sung at my house. This is a mistake. The phenomenon referred to, with many other equally astonishing marvels, has occurred many times at the house of a lady in the country, whose name I could not give without her permission, but who would no doubt be willing to confirm the accuracy of my remark.—Yours,

24, *Cheyne-row, September* 11, 1888. E. A. C.

MR. BIRON'S BLUNDER.

To the EDITOR *of the* PALL MALL GAZETTE.

DEAR SIR,—It was with much surprise that I read of the opinion which Mr. Biron is reported to have expressed at the Westminster police-court on Saturday last that the Married Women's Property Act, 1882, only affected women married since 1883. Section 5 of that Act expressly provides that all property (including earnings and wages) acquired after the passing of that Act by a woman married before the passing thereof shall be held by her as her separate property. Moreover, 20 and 21 Vict., c. 85, 21 and 22 Vict., c. 108, and 27 and 28 Vict., c. 44, enact that if a wife be deserted by her husband without reasonable cause, she may obtain an order under which any property or money she acquires after his desertion will be protected and belong to her as if she were a *feme sole*. In fact, all separate earnings or wages acquired by a wife after the 9th of August, 1870, are her own absolutely. This was provided by the Married Women's Property Act, 1870, and I cannot help feeling that Mr. Biron must have been misunderstood.—Yours truly,

A SOLICITOR.

September 10.

OCCASIONAL NOTES.

The Right Hon. Henry Matthews, Q.C., M.P., her Majesty's principal Secretary of State for the Home Department, is abruptly, not to say rudely, told by the *Daily Telegraph* this morning that he must clear out and make room for an abler man. Our contemporary, who cannot be accused of partisan hostility to the Ministry, tells Lord Salisbury that "the public are altogether discontented with and will soon become uncontrollably impatient of the presence at the Home Office of Mr. Matthews, and it adds that he has been a source of miserable weakness and discredit to the present Administration," all of which we predicted as soon as his appointment was announced. But after all, unsatisfactory a Minister as he has been, it is rather unjust to sacrifice him to the manes of the four unfortunates who have been butchered at Whitechapel.

Mr. Matthews's ministerial career has been a curiosity in the history of English administration. He was nominated by Lord Randolph Churchill on the strength of his performance in the Dilke divorce case, in the belief that he would reinforce the debating strength of the front bench, of which Lord Randolph was then the leader. He brought upon the Government its only serious defeat in the House of Commons by the way in which he treated Miss Cass, and he would probably have disappeared long ago if Lipski had not saved him by his confession. It would be odd if a Minister who was rescued from overthrow by the confession of one Whitechapel murderer were to be ejected from office on account of his inability to discover the whereabouts of another murderer, who is also a denizen of the same squalid district. Whitechapel may yet avenge Trafalgar-square.

As an advertisement nothing is so effective as one which is printed in capitals all gory red with human blood. The Whitechapel murder has done service to the cause of humanity by calling attention to the conditions under which the poor exist in the East-end. There is a very noteworthy article in the *Morning Post* on this subject. Terrible crimes, it is evident, have their uses, like pestilences, earthquakes, and other revelations of the unseen forces which in ordinary times slumber unnoticed in our midst.

Mr. *Punch* asks "a serious question" this week which is well worth serious attention. He says:—

> Is it not within the bounds of probability that to the highly-coloured pictorial advertisements to be seen on almost all the hoardings in London vividly representing sensational scenes of murder, exhibited as "the great attractions" of certain dramas, the public may be to a certain extent indebted for the horrible crimes in Whitechapel? We say it most seriously; imagine the effect of these gigantic pictures of violence and assassination by knife and pistol on the morbid imagination of unbalanced minds.

The worst of the "hideous posters" must, however, be laid to the discredit, not of the drama but of the press; and we trust that the journal which is responsible for disfiguring the streets of London with the bloody picture of "Devlin the Barber" will take Mr. *Punch's* rebuke to heart.

The "plain truth" is, says the Vienna correspondent of the *Times*, that Queen Nathalie's "oddities of temper and vagaries of behaviour had been the talk of Court and diplomatic circles long before the King was driven to exasperation by them." The true truth is that until the Queen was driven nearly to distraction by the coarse brutality of a habitually unfaithful husband no one ever whispered a word of complaint against her temper or her behaviour. It is enough to drive a high-spirited woman nearly mad to be mated to such a person as King Milan, and it is entirely in keeping with the density of his intelligence that after being guilty of almost every conjugal offence, he should have assumed the rôle of an injured party and demanded a divorce. This, however, seems to have been too much even for his own creatures in Belgrade.

The Brigands of Bulgaria seem to possess a good many points in common with Mr. Gilbert's "Pirates of Penzance," if we may believe the account of their manners and customs given by a gentleman who recently passed some time among them. If their sense of duty is less delicate than that of Mr. Gilbert's buccaneers, they make up for the defect by the most punctilious piety. Fasts they observe rigorously; and this is all the more creditable as the precariousness of their supplies often forces them to keep banyan days not prescribed by the Church. A brigand named Petko (doubtless the Friar Tuck of the band) reads prayers at stated times, putting on for the purpose the gorgeous canonicals of a Greek Archimandrite, whom his comrades recently murdered. It is touching to learn that the evils of parliamentary government are not unknown to these sons of the mountain. Having assured themselves that their involuntary guest was not M. Stambuloff, the Minister-President, but only a harmless photographer, they debated for six hours the question of his life or death! When the closure was applied, nine votes against two favoured the former alternative. In parting with their guest, the brigands embraced and kissed him one by one, begging for keepsakes. What could be more idyllic?

War, remarked a moralist, ceased to be interesting when it became scientific. The human element disappeared when battles were decided by machines. It is only when the individuality of the combatants is preserved that war is anything more than a gigantic mechanism of slaughter. The new development of naval warfare reported from Kiel tends to restore the human element which science has been eliminating. The naval battles of the future may possibly be decided by swimmers fitted with a patent inflated floating dress in which they will be able to make their way noiselessly and unseen under the keels of the ironclads, to which they will fix infernal machines, and then disappear as silently and as safely as they came, to watch at a safe distance the great ship blown to pieces. No crinoline can guard against these human torpedoes, and with a corps of expert swimmers properly equipped the authorities at any port could render a blockade absolutely impossible.

Some interesting facts were mentioned at the British Association yesterday in the discussion on Mr. Harrison's paper in favour of leasehold enfranchisement. At Stockport there are two ground landlords, it seems, who in a few years "will come into from ten to twenty millions' worth of property." And another speaker mentioned a similar case in London where "in 1930 there would be a ground landlord who would draw an income from residential areas in London, unless some modification of the present land tenure were instituted, of five millions per annum." "This," added the speaker, "seems to be a wild statement." So it does: but there is much virtue in the "unless." One need not even agree with the American millionaire who "would not give twenty years' purchase for any piece of property whatever in the civilized world," to doubt whether ground rents will still go in forty years' time to those who "toil not neither do they spin." The two Stockport landlords have indeed given land to "the Primrose League and a church here and there;" but that will hardly be accepted as a fair equivalent for twenty millions' worth of unearned increment.

Mr. Isaac Pitman gave the British Association some interesting calculations yesterday as to the saving of time which would result from the universal adoption of phonetic spelling and shorthand writing. Here is his account:—

Cr.	A saving per year of
To phonetic spelling	£1,000,000
To shorthand writing	100,000,000 hours = 27,000 years.

We will assume that the estimates on which Mr. Pitman bases his sum are correct; but what then? It is all very well to give each man, woman, and child an addition of time; but the old question arises, "What will he do with it?" Considering how large a part of most people's lives is devoted to discovering new expedients for wasting their time, we may well doubt whether to set free the time now spent in the perfectly innocent business of spelling out unphonetic printing and of longhand writing, would be an unmixed benefit.

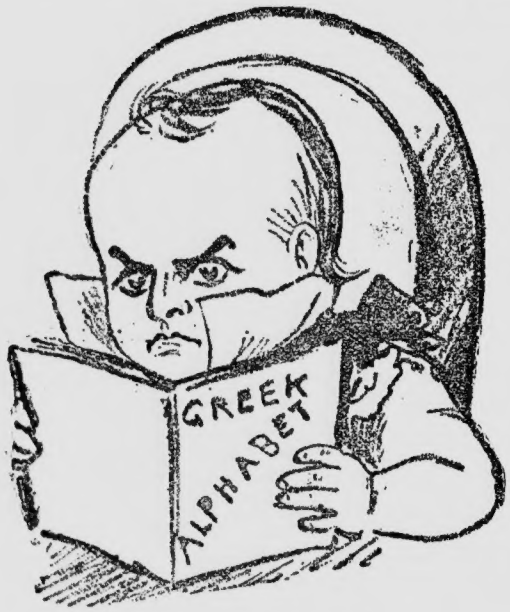
One cannot say that the blood trail of the Whitechapel murderer has been hidden from "the wise and prudent," for that would be too flattering a description of the police; but, at any rate, it has been revealed unto babes. It was a little girl living in the next house but one to the scene of the murder who yesterday discovered marks of blood on the wall and ground, and communicated them to the inspector in charge of the case. Thus put on the scent, the police have been able to make out exactly the course taken by the murderer after the commission of his crime. But is it not an extraordinary thing that it never occurred to the detectives themselves to examine the adjoining premises? An inspector was, indeed, on his way there yesterday when the little girl told him her discovery; but that was only because the coroner had asked the London police to do what the police everywhere else do (he said) without asking—namely, to make a plan of the scene of the murder and its surroundings. When the police neglect such an obvious first step, need one wonder if they are a long time getting any further?

It is an excellent thing that the police should not be above being led by little children; but unfortunately these latter cannot always be trusted to further the ends of justice so cleverly as the little Whitechapel girl. The first discovery of the new London mystery—the mutilated arm found off Pimlico—was also made by children. But they thought it to be the carcass of a dead dog, and instead of telling the inspector, subjected it to the normal treatment prescribed by the London *gamin*; they "amused themselves by pelting it with stones."

"THE CHILD IS FATHER OF THE MAN."

SKETCHES OF STATESMEN IN THEIR YOUTH.

AN enterprising contemporary appended the other day to an account of an interview with Mr. Labouchere a portrait of the sage taken when he was in his teens. The guileless simplicity of the boyish face seemed to throw much light on the character of the Mr. Labouchere we all know; and thinking that similar portraits might prove of similar interest, our artist has favoured us with the accompanying sketches.



MR. GLADSTONE
At the age of 3 months.

LORD GRANVILLE
At the age of 5.

SIR WILLIAM HARCOURT
At the age of 8.

MISS CLARA BALFOUR
At the age of 9.

MR. BRADLAUGH
At the age of 2.

MR. JOSEPH CHAMBERLAIN
At the age of 11.

LORD RANDOLPH CHURCHILL
At the age of 12.

THE DUKE OF ARGYLL
At the age of 14.

CIVILIZING AFRICA BY CHARTERED COMPANIES.

WHAT THE ROYAL NIGER COMPANY ARE DOING.

IT looks as if chartered companies were the destined means of opening up and civilizing the Dark Continent. What the newly chartered East Africa Company are proposing to accomplish on the East Coast, the Royal Niger Company are doing on the West, and apparently with more success than the colonial Governments which draw their life from Downing-street. Lord Aberdare is governor of the Royal Niger Company, and Sir George Taubman-Goldie deputy-governor, and in conversation with the latter a representative elicited some information as to the operations of the corporation. First of all, as to the difficulties which such companies have to encounter, they may be put down under three heads. The first great obstacle is this, that negroes have everything to learn. They have been accustomed hitherto to supply their immediate wants and nothing more, so that beyond this minimum they have to be taught everything. It is slow work to teach them how to produce articles which are in request in Europe. A trade has been gradually growing up, but that only extends to certain regions, and, unfortunately for Western Africa, the articles of trade which have thus come into use—palm oil, for instance—have fallen very largely in price, as much as 50 per cent. That has been one of the great difficulties of the past three or four years. In the second place, there is the labour difficulty. Being unaccustomed to labour, they are averse to it. The Niger Company has had less to contend with in this respect than those in other parts of Africa, for although the natives near the coast are naturally idle, those in the interior are of more industrious habits. Some day imported labour will be necessary—either Chinese or coolie—not to extirpate the natives, but to serve as an example. The third great difficulty is the climate. Near the seaboard the country is undoubtedly pestilential. As you leave the mangrove swamps and palm forests behind and reach the interior, you come to a climate which, while totally unfit for European colonization, is fully as healthy as many parts of India. The difficulties arising from the climate are, therefore, not insuperable, if proper precautions are taken.

With respect to European jealousies and interference, there seems no ground for alarm on that score. The newspapers have reported that German merchants have complained of the administration of the Niger Company, but as a matter of fact there is not a single German trader in the whole of the company's territory. There was one some time ago, but he was tried and deported by Sir James Marshall, C.M.G., for a long period Chief Justice of the Gold Coast Colony, and now of the Niger Territories. His offence was inciting the natives to rebellion and bloodshed. The whole case of the German Colonial Society in Berlin thus falls to the ground.

It should be borne in mind by those who look for quick and fabulous returns from their investments, that Africa occupies a singular position. After countless generations have despised Africa, there seems now to be a disposition to go to the other extreme and imagine that untold wealth is about to flow from the interior of this continent. The fact is that generations must pass before the country can be properly developed. We are not dealing with a country in which there is accumulated wealth, acquired habits of industry, and a knowledge of art, but with peoples who are absolutely ignorant. There is potential wealth in the land, but it must be cultivated. At present no trade is done except in forest products. By and by, when they are taught, they will begin to cultivate the soil and raise products which are in demand in Europe. Indigo will be one of these, and Africa will become one of the great indigo-producing countries of the world. The chartered companies meanwhile will, no doubt, do fairly well, not making great returns, but sufficient to repay their shareholders for their investment, while developing and creating a great country and a large market for our manufactures. As to the demand for our goods, that is a question that need not trouble us. The natives are fully alive to the advantage of British manufactures, and they will take any amount. The demand is only limited by what they can give in return, and the offer of British goods is the inducement which the companies hold out to them to produce the wealth of their own country.

The Niger Company have not been troubled by the Arabs. There are Mahommedan Powers in the interior, but they are on friendly terms with the company, and treaties have been drawn up between them. As European commerce advances, slave caravans have been disappearing. The Niger and its affluents being navigated by the steam launches and canoes of the company, the necessity for the caravans coming down to the coast no longer exists, and thus in a peaceful way a blow has been dealt at the slave trade. The slavery which exists among the pagan tribes in the Niger territories corresponds to the serfdom of the Middle Ages. In some cases a slave inherits from his master, to the prejudice of his relations. In other tribes slaves have practically complete control of the State. The dark side of the picture is that at religious festivities slaves are sacrificed to their gods. The company lately engaged in a small war with the powerful tribe of Asava, who refused to abolish the barbarous custom. Although the tribe numbered 20,000 men the company proved successful, and the custom has been abolished. No doubt the example will be followed by neighbouring tribes. The company consider it impracticable to proceed to uproot the religious prejudices and fanaticism which have existed in these tribes for untold generations, but they hope that the contact with civilization will work to that end. Before they came on the scene the natives were constantly engaged in tribal wars, but now that their energies are diverted to trade there will be less and less of these conflicts. The actual territory covered by treaty which the Niger Company has under its sway is 75,000 square miles, but beyond that it has commercial treaties with outside Powers covering an area twice as large again. As to the outlook as a whole, Sir George Taubman-Goldie considers that the English people must not expect too much, but that the only way of dealing with Africa is by chartered companies. They are on the spot, can act promptly, and are responsible for their own defence, while colonial Governments are trammelled by Downing-street.

At Home and Abroad.

By the recent earthquake in Greece damage has been done to the amount of two millions of drachmas.

The Congo State has been divided for administrative purposes into eleven provinces.

M. Stambuloff, the Bulgarian Premier, left Sophia yesterday to join Prince Ferdinand at Ichtiman.

At Ostend there has been another quarrel between Belgian and English fishermen.

The Dean and Chapter of Lincoln have decided to restore the beautiful Chapter House of the Cathedral, at a cost of £7,000.

At Antwerp the same wild gambling in time bargains of coffee is going on as at Hamburg. Measures are demanded to put a stop to this abuse.

A Penzance telegram states that Baron H. De Worms has been ordered by his doctors to go abroad owing to his being overworked by the Sugar Conference.

The Queen has given Upper Lodge, Bushey Park, to Lady Alfred Paget for her life. This residence was Lord Alfred's "perquisite" in right of his office as Clerk-Marshal.

Truth learns that the Prince of Wales intends to join the Oddfellows, and he will probably be initiated into one of the Norwich lodges before the end of the year.

It is stated in a Belgrade telegram that M. Ristich has declared his readiness to form a Cabinet, provided King Milan withdraws his petition for a divorce against Queen Nathalie.

A Reuter's telegram from Sophia says that M. Risoff, editor of the new journal *Christo Boteff*, who was arrested for publishing articles of a revolutionary character, has been sentenced to two years' imprisonment.

President Carnot has been enthusiastically received during his tour in Normandy. He arrived at Cherbourg yesterday afternoon, and was welcomed with a salute of one hundred and one guns.

From New York a correspondent telegraphs that the first State election, which was held in Maine on Monday, has resulted in a victory for the Republicans by about the same majority as in 1884.

Telephonic communication was opened yesterday between Berlin and Breslau. The line is the longest in Germany, being 360 kilometres. Every word was heard most distinctly in Berlin as well as in Breslau.

A railway has just been opened near Alpnach-Staad, on the Lake of Lucerne to the Kulm Hotel, on the summit of Mount Pilatus. The journey occupies ninety-five minutes.

The date of Count Kalnoky's visit to Prince Bismarck is not yet fixed, but there is reason to believe that the visit will be paid in a few days, doubtless between the 15th and 25th of the month. The interview will probably take place at Friedrichsruh, not Varzin.

The death is announced of Dr. Pape, President of the German Civil Statute Code Commission. He was born in 1816. He was nominated as early as 1858 a member of the Commission for drawing up the commercial statute code of Prussia.

Count Charles O'Sullivan, son of a former Belgian Minister at Vienna, and husband of the famous tragedienne Charlotte Wolter, died on Sunday night at Hietzing. His marriage took place many years before it was made public in 1876.

Mr. Alfred Nixon, of the Anerley Bicycle Club (who was the first to ride a tricycle from John o'Groats to Land's End in 1882), starts from Edinburgh at midday on Thursday on a safety bicycle, and will endeavour to reach London (400 miles) in two days.

The church which has the largest income, whether raised by the congregation or otherwise, is Dr. Hall's in New York, where the amount contributed is nearly £30,000 a year. The largest church income in Great Britain is £10,000, which is raised by Dr. Whyte's congregation at Free St. George's, Edinburgh.

Yesterday Mr. Daniel Whelen, one of the tenants on Lord Lansdowne's estate who joined the Plan of Campaign, was evicted from his farm of Barrow House, Athy. Mr. Whelen was vice-chairman of the recently dissolved Athy board of guardians. There was no resistance.

The Belgian Government has not yet taken any decision as to the choice among the four systems of repeating rifles which have been tried, but the military authorities are in favour of the system in general which has the magazine under the mechanism, contrary to divers English and American systems which have it in the butt end, and the Mauser system, which has it under the barrel.

The Atlas Line steamer *Alps*, which has arrived at New York from Hayti, reports that on the 2nd inst. she encountered the hurricane which proved so disastrous in the West Indies. The sea swept from the decks everything movable. Mr. R. Meadows, the chief steward, was washed overboard and lost.

It is said that a new expedition of twenty-five thousand men will be sent by Italy against the Negus of Abyssinia next November. Meantime two thousand rifles are being embarked on the *Scrivia*, which leaves Naples on the 16th for Massowah, to arm the tribes around Keren with them. The firm of Armstrong has just received an order of a hundred large guns for the coast defence.

The Protestant Lord Bishop of Kilmore, addressing an Armagh Diocesan Synod held at Longford to-day referred to the death of the late Colonel King-Harman, M.P., as that of a good and valued and honoured friend, one who had manifested a lively, active, and sympathetic interest with regard to the Church of Ireland.

George Peacock and James Smith, both giving the same address, were charged at the Marylebone police-court yesterday with being concerned in stealing from Euston railway station a travelling bag, containing property to the value of £10, and also with stealing from other metropolitan railway termini. Peacock pleaded guilty to all the charges, but Smith denied them. Both prisoners were committed for trial.

A sham fight took place at Aldershot yesterday, the total force on the field being about 6,000 men, 800 horses, and 24 guns. The troops, divided into two large bodies, contended in an outpost action on the line of the Basingstoke Canal. The operations were very well carried out, and the metropolitan volunteer sergeants, now under tactical instruction at the camp, were taken over the field, the manœuvres being explained to them.

The body of the woman found on the pavement in Blackfriars-road on Saturday night proves to be that of Mrs. Bryne, widow of the late Sergeant-Major Bryne, of Canterbury. She left that city on Saturday, and was to have returned on Sunday night. Her continued absence caused much uneasiness, and the consequent inquiries led to the establishment of her identity.

DOWN WITH MR. MATTHEWS!

THE "FANTASTIC FAILURE" MUST GO.—*Daily Telegraph.*

The *Daily Telegraph*, as to the reorganization of the Detective force, says that it cannot, while referring to the bounden duty of the Government, shrink from the painful but imperatively necessary task of warning Lord Salisbury that the public are altogether discontented with, and will soon become uncontrollably impatient of, the presence at the Home Office of Mr. Matthews. It must be explained that Sir Charles Warren is only Prefect of Police; the Minister, the Fouché, the Savary, the head police functionary of the kingdom, is Mr. Matthews. The fact can be no longer disguised that the Home Secretary now in office is a source of miserable weakness and discredit to the present Administration. In the House of Commons he has been nothing more nor less than a fantastic failure. In the provinces he is scarcely known even by name; and when the provincials do become aware of him it is only to mistrust him, and to express disrespectful and indignant astonishment that a Government, otherwise so capable and so popular, should drag with it a dead weight of so much vacillation, so mu h ineptitude, and so many frankly naïve confessions of crass ignorance concerning things of which the most commonplace Home Secretary ought to be fully cognizant. That Mr. Matthews does not know, that he is not aware, that he does not remember, or that he has not heard of things which to any ordinarily intelligent man should be as manifest as the sun at noonday, have been Session after Session stereotyped replies of the Home Secretary to the simplest questions. Very likely Mr. Matthews is in many respects an excellent gentleman; but it is high time for him to go and excel somewhere else and in some other department than the Home Office.

PIZER SET AT LIBERTY.

LIGHT ON THE MURDERER'S MOVEMENTS.

The latest reports as to the search for the murderer are not of a hopeful character. A half-Spaniard and half-Bulgarian, who gave the name of Emanuel Delbast Violenia, waited on the police yesterday. He stated that he, his wife, and two children tramped from Manchester to London with the view of being able to emigrate to Australia, and took up their abode in one of the lodging-houses in Hanbury-street. Early last Saturday morning, walking alone along Hanbury-street, he noticed a man and woman quarrelling in a very excited manner. Violenia distinctly heard the man threaten to kill the woman by sticking a knife into her. They passed on, and Violenia went to his lodging. After the murder he communicated what he had seen to the police. At one o'clock yesterday afternoon Sergeant Thicke, assisted by Inspector Cansby, placed about a dozen men, the greater portion of whom were Jews, in the yard of the Leman-street police-station. Pizer was then brought out and allowed to place himself where he thought proper among the assembled men. He is a man of short stature, with black whiskers and shaven chin. Violenia was then brought into the yard. Having keenly scrutinized all the faces before him, he went up to Pizer and identified him as the man whom he heard threaten a woman on the night of the murder. Subsequently, cross-examination so discredited Violenia's evidence that it was wholly distrusted by the police, and Pizer was set at liberty.

An important discovery, however, which throws some light upon the movements of the murderer immediately after the committal of the crime, was made yesterday afternoon. In the backyard of the house, 25, Hanbury-street, the next house but one to the scene of the murder, a little girl noticed peculiar marks on the wall and on the ground. She communicated the discovery to Detective-Inspector Chandler, who had just called at the house in order to make a plan of the back premises of the three houses for the use of the coroner at the inquest. The whole of the yard was then carefully examined, with the result that a bloody trail was found distinctly marked for a distance of five or six feet in the direction of the back door of the house. Further investigation left no doubt that the trail was that of the murderer, who, it was evident, after finishing his work, had passed through or over the dividing fence between Nos. 29 and 27, and thence into the garden of No. 25. On the wall of the last house there was found a curious mark, between a smear and a sprinkle, which had probably been made by the murderer, who, alarmed by the blood-soaked state of his coat, took off that garment and knocked it against the wall. Abutting on the end of the yard of No. 25 are the works of Mr. Bailey, a packing-case maker. In the yard of this establishment, in an out-of-the-way corner, the police yesterday afternoon found some crumbled paper almost saturated with blood. It was evident that the murderer had found the paper in the yard of 25 and had wiped his hands with it, afterwards throwing it over the wall into Bailey's premises. The general appearance of the bloody trail and other circumstances seem to show that the murderer intended to make his way as rapidly as possible into the street through the house next door but one, being frightened by some noise or light in No. 29 from retreating by the way by which he came.

Some further particulars are forthcoming respecting the strange conduct of Pigott, the man who was apprehended at Gravesend. He was first seen in Gravesend on Sunday afternoon about four o'clock. He then asked four young men, who were standing in the London-road, near Princes-street, where he could get a glass of beer, he having walked from Whitechapel. The young men told him. Following their directions he jumped into a tramcar going towards Northfleet. The young men noticed that he had a bad hand, and that he carried a black bag. He was without this bag when subsequently seen. He left a paper parcel at a fish shop, stating he was going across the water to Tilbury. Instead of doing so he went to the Pope's Head publichouse, where his conversation about his hatred of women aroused suspicion, and led to his being detained by the police authorities. Superintendent Berry found the paper parcel at the fish shop to contain two shirts and a pair of stockings, one of the shirts, a blue-striped one, being torn about the breast, and having marks of blood upon it. At the police-station, Pigott first said he knocked down the woman who had bitten his hand in a yard at the back of a lodging-house in Whitechapel, but he subsequently said the occurrence took place in Brick-lane. What has become of the black bag which Pigott was seen to have in Gravesend on Sunday afternoon is not known. Pigott of late years has followed the business of a publican, and seven or eight years ago he was in a good position, giving £8,000 to go into a house at Hoxton.

THE MORAL OF THE WHITECHAPEL MURDERS.

"NOT HALF ENOUGH IS BEING DONE FOR THE WRETCHED."—*Morning Post.*

The *Morning Post*, the organ of the Conservative party, has been stirred to write an article on the condition of the poor in Whitechapel, which shows that a murder sometimes touches a heart indifferent to less violent reminders. Our contemporary says:—

HOW THE POOR LIVE.

The veil has been drawn aside that covered up the hideous condition in which thousands, tens of thousands, of our fellow-creatures live, in this boasted nineteenth century, and in the very heart of the wealthiest, the healthiest, the most civilized city in the world. We have all known for many years that deplorable misery, gross crime, and unspeakable vice—mixed and matted together—lie just off the main roads that lead through the industrial quarters of the metropolis. The daily sins, the nightly agonies, the hourly sorrows that haunt and poison and corrupt the ill-fated tenants and sojourners in these homes of degradation and disease have been again and again described with more or less truth and force by our popular writers; but it is when some crime or accident, more than usually horrible, has given vividness and reality to the previously unrealized picture, that we are brought to feel—what our keenest powers failed adequately to conceive before—how parts of our great capital are honeycombed with cells, hidden from the light of day, where men are brutalized, women are demonized, and children are brought into the world only to be inoculated with corruption, reared in terror, and trained in sin, till punishment and shame overtake them too, and thrust them down to the black depths where their parents lie already lost, or dead to every hope or chance of moral recovery and social rescue. Then comes a terrible crime, bringing a revelation that fills every soul with horror, and makes us ask why sleeps the thunder, and how these things can be?

A SAMPLE SLUM.

The answer is in the facts disclosed. Take the latest as a sample of the rest. A wretched back street is crowded with houses of the most miserable class. Nearly all of them are let out in lodgings, of a single room, or part of a room. The house where the murder was committed had no less than six families, all toilers for daily bread, some of questionable honesty or sobriety, and all, we may be sure, contaminated in greater or less degree by the vicious surroundings of their distressful home. Loose women have as free run in these abodes as rabbits in a warren. There is a continual coming and going. Precepts of decency are not observed, the standard of propriety is low, the whole moral atmosphere is pestilential. Poverty in its direst form haunts some dwellings, ghastly profligacy defiles others, and this in street after street, alley after alley, cul de sac after cul de sac, garret after garret, and cellar after cellar. Amid such gross surroundings who can be good? With this atrocious miasma continually brooding over them and settling down among them, who can rise to anything better. Morally these people are not only lost—they are dead and buried.

CLAMOURING FOR IMMEDIATE CONSIDERATION.

This is the part of the subject that clamours for immediate consideration, these are miseries that need immediate remedy, these are the lamentable conditions of human existence, which may well tax the wisest counsels and the most philanthropic consideration of the best men and women of the day. Side by side with all the luxury, the ease, the magnificence, and abounding plenty of our vast metropolis, are all these pitiable ground-down people bowed with misery, and steeped in crime. Happily there are here and there, like far off stars in darkest nights, exceptional instances of honesty. What can be done? How shall the help, the sympathy, the succour of the better circumstanced, the wealthy, and the well-to-do, be brought to bear with sweet reclaiming power among these lost ones?

WHAT IS WANTED.

It is not so much the truncheon of the policemen that is wanted as the wand, magical in its power and healing in its touch, of higher moral ministries—some centres at intervals in their very midst where the gentle ministrations of Christian love shall never be sought by the weary and heavy laden in vain, where the veriest outcast may knock and feel that there at least are pitying hearts and open hands, the instruments of God in the recovery of man. We take into the reckoning all that is being nobly done for the wretched people, but what we want to urge is that it is not half enough. The saddening sight of pent-up misery which the recent four murders disclose confirm our complaint, that the better off classes have not yet risen to the height of self-denial and charity which the hardness of the lot of these close-packed, hard-working, much-suffering poor require to enable them to break through the fetters that bind them down and gall their necks till they are fain to let things drift, while they, like Lazarus in his grave, are without the wish or power to rise to anything better.

DISGRACEFUL SCENES AT A VESTRY MEETING.

Scenes which amount to little less than a public scandal took place at a Shoreditch vestry meeting last night. The question was debated whether the clerk should or should not be at once suspended for accusing a vestryman of deliberate falsehood; and, in the course of another discussion, one member thought it seemly to introduce several weak attempts of a ventriloquial character to the great amusement of his fellows. Another vestryman complained that when he went to the town hall to seek information he found that one of the principal officials was spending the afternoon at the "Bull and Bush." Much other talk of an unseemly character was indulged in, and several scenes occurred before the meeting broke up.

WHAT A DISASTER THERE MIGHT HAVE BEEN!

A telegram from America states that the train carrying the Grand Army of Veterans from Youngstown, Ohio, to the national encampment at Columbus was wrecked on Monday afternoon near Wadsworth. The connecting rod of the locomotive broke while the train was waiting on a curve for repairs. A heavy freight train following dashed into the rear of the special, wrecking four cars, two of which were completely demolished. The excursionists fortunately left the cars before the crash came. As they hurried down the embankment the wrecked coaches rolled upon them, killing four and injuring twenty-five, several fatally. The freight train was signalled, but could not step on account of the steep grade.

HATCHARDS, BOOKSELLERS, 187, PICCADILLY, W. All the New and Standard Books. Discount 3d. in the shilling. Post orders promptly executed.

For FEUILLETON, see page 13.

FOURTH EDITION.

THE TZAR AMONG HIS OWN PEOPLE.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)

NOVAJA PRAGA, Sept. 11.—The Emperor has celebrated his name-day in the midst of his generals and with all the military surroundings incidental to the great manœuvres which are being held here and in the vicinity. The civil population, however, took a prominent part in the celebration of the festival. Many gifts. consisting of rural products of various descriptions, were brought in by the country people as offerings to the Emperor and Empress, and deputations of the leading men in the villages of Cherson presented bread and salt, while groups of peasant girls offered garlands formed of corn and harvest produce. Three hundred and fifty persons were invited to the luncheon at the Imperial table. The manœuvres will be brought to a conclusion to-morrow.

MURDER OF A STRATFORD ENGINEER AND SUICIDE OF THE MURDERER.

A shocking tragedy occurred yesterday afternoon at Lupton Castle, near Kirkby Lonsdale, Westmoreland. During a family quarrel John Vernon, a gamekeeper, shot William Atkinson, an engineer, of Stratford, near London, dead, in the presence of his wife. Vernon then shot himself, dying almost immediately. Atkinson and his wife were on a visit to Vernon. The most painful excitement prevails in the district

THE SUPPOSED MURDERER CLOSELY WATCHED.

ANOTHER THEORY EXPLODED.

The Exchange Telegraph Company states that the police have full knowledge of the whereabouts of the man whose description has been circulated as that of the alleged Whitechapel murderer, and his identity is spoken to by several witnesses ; although not actually under arrest, he is carefully watched, and his arrest is said to be only a question of time. The belief is steadily gaining ground that the man who was seen in a passage with a woman who is supposed to have been Mary Ann Nicholls on the morning of the 8th of August, and who spoke with a foreign accent, is the murderer of both Mary Ann Nicholls and Annie Chapman. In the event of his arrest strong *primâ facie* evidence will be forthcoming to connect him with the crimes. The pensioner who kept company with Annie Chapman will, it is said, be forthcoming, and also the two men who were called by the witness Davis when he found the body in Hanbury-street, but whose names were not previously known to the police. They are employed at the works of Mr. Bailey, packing-case maker.

Later.—An examination of the stains found in the backyard at 25, Hanbury-street (see page 7) proves that they are not blood-stains as was at first thought. So the discovery will not tend to elucidate the mystery with which the crime is surrounded. The man Pigott arrested at Gravesend is still at the infirmary under surveillance.

A CATHOLIC CHURCH BURNED AT CHORLEY.

A PRIEST'S BODY REDUCED TO ASHES.

Early this morning the Catholic Church at Chorley was discovered to be on fire, and, before the flames could be got under, a considerable portion of the woodwork of the church was entirely destroyed. The fire originated in a remarkable manner. The Rev. Father Hawkesworth, the priest of the mission, died on Saturday. Yesterday his remains were removed to the chapel, which was closed at ten o'clock last night, candles being left burning at the side of the coffin. One of these candles must have caused the fire. The oak coffin and the dead body were found to be entirely consumed to ashes. These ashes were removed to the schoolroom, and at noon to-day they were buried, the Bishop of Liverpool conducting the service.

LORD LONDESBOROUGH'S SILVER WEDDING.

While the golden wedding of the Earl and Countess Fitzwilliam is being celebrated in one part of Yorkshire, the silver wedding of Lord and Lady Londesborough is being kept this week at Scarborough, on which town they have conferred many benefits. Addresses of congratulation and gifts of a handsome character, including a good deal of jewellery for Lady Londesborough, were presented by the mayor and corporation, the Scarborough Cricket Club, the Scarborough lifeboat men (who gave a silver model of their lifeboat), Lady Sitwell, Lieutenant-Colonel Steble, Mr. J. L. Toole, Mr. Charles Wyndham, and others. Lady Londesborough is to be presented with a portrait of her husband, by Herkomer, in honour of the event, but his lordship specially desired that no fuss should be made on the occasion.

THE MISSIONARY SOCIETIES HAULED OVER THE COALS.

Canon Isaac Taylor, whose speech at the Wolverhampton Church Congress last year as to the failure of missions caused such a sensation, is understood to be investigating the returns of the leading Church societies as to the number of their converts, the method of keeping their accounts, and the expenditure upon home organization. Whether the new indictment is made on the platform or in the press, it is likely to cause even a greater scare than his original utterance.

A CORONER ON THE INSURANCE OF INFANTS.

Mr. Troutbeck, the coroner for Westminster, held an inquest last night on the body of an infant whose life had been insured for £2 10*s*. In summing up the evidence the coroner said this was one of a class of cases which were always difficult to deal with—where children had died from improper feeding, and this case was rendered more intricate by the fact of the child's life being insured. He thought everybody who had had any experience of the insurance of children's lives was convinced that the system was an exceedingly bad one, and that when it did not lead to crime it often put perfectly innocent and respectable people under suspicion. There was no ground whatever upon which the system could be justified, and it should be condemned by public opinion, for it was a distinct inducement to crime. The practice was now so common, however, that it would not be fair for the jury to allow it to prejudice the parents in this case, especially seeing that the improper feeding might have been the result of ignorance. A verdict in accordance with the medical testimony was recorded.

KOSSUTH AND THE ROYAL MARRIAGE.

The *Standard* of this morning publishes from its Paris correspondent what purports to be a congratulatory telegram from Kossuth to the Prince Jerome Napoleon on the occasion of the Princess Letitia's marriage. We are in a position to state that the telegram in question is pure fabrication. Immediately after his arrival in Turin on the 6th inst. Prince Jerome called on Kossuth, at the latter's residence in Via dei Mille, as is his wont to do every time he goes to Turin ; on this occasion Kossuth may have said a few congratulatory words on the forthcoming marriage of the Prince's daughter, but nothing more passed between them on this subject, and it is indeed difficult to see how Kossuth could have sent a telegram, considering they were both in Turin yesterday, a small city, with no local telegraph service. It is interesting to note that Kossuth, who has known the Prince close upon thirty years, entertains a much higher opinion of him than the world generally would think ; indeed, the aged Hungarian patriot pronounces him to be the most gifted man in the family after Napoleon I. himself, vastly superior to Napoleon III. The Prince, in his turn, has a great reverence for Kossuth, and never misses an opportunity of seeing him when in Turin. Kossuth is now eighty-six, and in marvellously vigorous health : he is just preparing the fourth volume of his "Memories of Exile" for publication.

The marriage of the Duke of Aosta with the Princess Mary Letitia Bonaparte was solemnized yesterday morning in the presence of the King, the Queen, and all the members of the Italian Royal family, the King and Queen of Portugal, the Duke of Oporto, and Prince Jerome and the Princess Clotilde, parents of the bride, the Ministers and officers of State, and, others. The civil ceremony took place in the grand ball-room of the Palace, which had been arranged for the occasion, and the religious rite was performed immediately afterwards in the chapel of the Royal Palace. The bridal dress was of white satin, embroidered with bees and eagles in silver, and a long Royal mantle of white and silver.

A GRAND FLOWER FESTIVAL.

The people of Turin celebrated the wedding by a grand flower festival, to which they invited the Duke and Duchess of Aosta and the Royal party. The Viâ Po, through which the procession passed to the scene of the fête, was handsomely decorated. Its lofty arcades were filled with flowers, the balconies and pillars being hung with drapery of rose and white—the colours of Savoy. Garlands of evergreen were stretched across the street, and altogether the effect produced in this fine thoroughfare was most brilliant. The Place Victor Emmanuel was galleried round with seats for 20,000 people, and in the centre an immense flower-basket had been constructed, with a high platform in the centre, for the reception of the Royal guests. This commanding position was reached by flights of steps laid with cloth of the Italian colours, and all other portions of the inside were filled in with flowers.

A HISTORICAL CAVALCADE.

The bridal cortège left the Palace square shortly before five. It was a gorgeous procession of the period of Louis XV. Each of the Royal carriages was preceded by a band of 30 cavaliers in the picturesque costumes of the beginning of the last century, and every cavalcade had a different colour. Then there were bands of music, companies of infantry, trumpeters, standard-bearers, and pages, all in similar costumes. The great crowd cheered heartily as the Royal personages stepped from the carriages into the flower-basket and mounted the stairs to the higher level. The bride looked brighter and happier now than at the altar. She was charmingly dressed in satin of salmon colour, and the Queen of Italy, who followed her, looked equally well in heliotrope silk. The Queen of Portugal brought some brilliant costumes with her from Paris. She was dressed in a rich cream brocaded silk. The Princess Mathilde came with her brother, Prince Jerome, who has not allowed the difference which exists between himself and his relatives to mar the happiness of the occasion. All the characters in the fête having assembled the scene presented was most brilliant and picturesque. The flower basket was now full of life, and the brightness of the varied colours in the costumes of the cavaliers standing on its outer edge gave additional animation. A black mass of at least one hundred thousand people which was collected round completed a most imposing picture. Twelve bands played together a wedding march arranged upon that of Mendelssohn's.

THE PROBLEM OF RELATIONSHIP.

Before the marriage the Duke of Aosta and the Princess Letitia stood to each other in the relation of uncle and niece. A special dispensation for their marriage had to be got from the Pope. An ingenious correspondent has worked out the question of the relationship of the parties now they are married. Henceforth (he says) the Princess Letitia is sister-in-law to her own mother, stepmother to one set of cousins, and aunt to the remainder ; while the Duke becomes son-in-law to his sister, nephew to his brother, and brother-in-law to his nephews.

MR. RUSKIN ON THE NATIONAL GALLERY.

Mr. Ruskin, in a preface to Mr. E. T. Cook's "Handbook to the National Gallery," which was published yesterday, says that the National Gallery is without question the most important collection of paintings in Europe for the purposes of the general student. Mr. Ruskin says : "When I last lingered in the Gallery before my old favourities, I thought them more wonderful than ever before ; but as I draw towards the close of life I feel that the real world is more wonderful yet ; that painting has not yet fulfilled half her mission—she has told us only of the heroism of men and the happiness of angels ; she may perhaps record in future the beauty of a world whose mortal inhabitants are happy, and which angels may be glad to visit."

MR. PARNELL'S PLAN.

Mr. Crilly, M.P., presided over yesterday's meeting of the Irish National League in Dublin, and stated that Mr. Parnell was playing a waiting game in order to show the English people that the Irish race possessed the qualities of doggedness, patience, and quietness. It was hard to submit to the injustices perpetrated by the Government, but the national leaders knew that if necessary Irishmen of the present day would act as fiercely and courageously as their forefathers did in '98.

THREATENED FAMINE IN EGYPT.

Even the most sanguine are now abandoning all hope of a further rise of the Nile this year. The principal loss will fall on Upper Egypt, where at least 150,000 acres will have to be exempted from the payment of the land tax, entailing at once an enormous loss to the Treasury, and a scarcity of food, which must inevitably lead to famine in the winter. In Lower Egypt the scarcity will be less felt ; and, in spite of the presence of the worm in a few districts, the general cotton crop promises to be rather above the average

THE ST. LEGER.

The following are the probable starters and jockeys for the St. Leger:—

Mr. J. Gretton's br c Apollo, by Hampton—Rosy Cross .....(F. Webb)
Mr. J. H. Houldsworth's br c Arrandale, by Springfield—Morgiana ...(Warne)
Duke of Portland's b c Ayrshire, by Hampton—Atalanta .....(F. Barrett)
Duke of Beaufort's bl or br c Benburb, by Ben Battle—Ermeline...(E. Martin)
Mr. C. Perkins's b f Belle Mahone, by Uncas—Jenny Howlet .....(Fagan)
Lord Bradford's b c Chillington, by Chippendale—Duvernay .....(Rickaby)
Lord Ellesmere's b f Estafette, by Galopin—Corrie .....(S. Loates)
Prince Soltykoff's ch f Love-in-Idleness, by Mask—Lucetta.....(J. Goater)
Lord Bradford's br c Merry Andrew, by Chippendale—Jubilant ..... (Wall)
Duke of Westminster's ch c Orbit, by Bend Or—Fair Alice ..... (T. Cannon)
Duke of Westminster's ch c Ossory, by Bend Or—Lily Agnes (T. Cannon, jun.)
Lord Calthorpe's ch f Seabreeze, by Isonomy—St. Marguerite...(W. Robinson)
Sir R. Jardine's b c Stronvar, by FitzJames—Minar ..... (Watts)
Mr. Naylor's b c White Flag, by Discord—Alba ..... (J. Woodburn)
Mr. Milner's b f Zanzibar, by Sterling—Lady Paramount.....(G. Barrett)
Mr. A. Taylor's ch c Netheravon, by Avontes, dam by Mortemer...(Cleminson)

LONDON MORNING BETTING.

2 to 1 agst Ayrshire, 11 to 4 agst Seabreeze, 9 to 2 agst Orbit, 16 to 1 ast Zanzibar, 20 to 1 agst Estafette, 20 to 1 agst Ossory, 33 to 1 agst Chillington, 33 to 1 agst Stronvar, 40 to 1 agst Belle Mahone, 50 to 1 agst any other.

THE AUSTRALIANS AT LEEDS.

The above match, between Shaw and Shewsbury's Anglo-Australian eleven and the Australians, commenced yesterday, on the Holbeck Recreation Ground at Leeds. The weather was cloudy and wet, but not sufficiently so to prevent play. The Australians won the toss, and elected to bat, but made a very poor display of batting, as they were all out for 86. Shaw's team made 121 for the loss of five wickets.

The match was resumed this morning, and at 1.37 the English team was out for 142.

AUSTRALIANS.—First Innings.

M'Donnell, b Lohmann	2	Lyons, b Preston	20
Bannerman, c Pilling, b Briggs	2	Worrall, run out	13
Jones, c Pilling, b Lohmann	1	Ferris, b Lohmann	0
Bonnor, c Brann, b Lohmann	6	Boyle, not out	0
Trott, b Preston	33	Extras	4
Turner, b Preston	0		
Jarvis, b Lohmann	5	Total	86

SHAW'S TEAM.—First Innings.

Ulyett, c Turner, b Boyle	24	Mr. L. C. Docker, not out	32
M. Read, c M'Donnell, b Ferris	17	Extras	4
Mr. W. Newham, c Bannerman, b Lyons	34		
Lohmann, c Jarvis, b Lyons	0	Total (five wickets)	121
Briggs, b Ferris	10		

BIRTHS AND DEATHS.

In London last week 2,475 births and 1,316 deaths were registered. Allowing for increase of population, the births were 264 and the deaths 130 below the average numbers in the corresponding weeks of the last ten years. The annual death-rate per thousand from all causes, which had been 17.5 and 16.4 in the two preceding weeks, further declined last week to 16.0. During the first ten weeks of the current quarter the death-rate averaged 16.2 per 1,000, and was 4.1 below the mean rate in the corresponding periods of the ten years 1878-87. The deaths registered last week in twenty-eight great towns of England and Wales corresponded to an annual rate of 17.8 per 1,000 of their aggregate population.

FLOWERS AND FRUIT.

A show of fruit and flowers was held yesterday under the auspices of the Royal Horticultural Society in the drill-hall of the London Scottish Rifle Volunteers, Westminster. A fine collection of fruit was exhibited by Messrs. James Veitch and Son from their nurseries at Southfields. Mr. Low, of Clapton, exhibited a Nepaul lily, which is the first that has ever flowered in England. Mr. Gordon, of Twickenham, exhibited some choice specimens of lilies, which received a bronze medal. Conspicuous among them were the *Auratum virginale* and the *speciosum* varieties. A new variety of carnation, named the Blushing Bride, was exhibited by Mr. T. Butcher, of Croydon. The silver Banksian medals were awarded to Messrs. Kelway and Son, for gladioli; to Mr. May, Edmonton, for a group of crotons; and to Mr. Ware, for a group of hardy flowers. A bronze Banksian medal went to Mr. Gordon for a group of lilies.

Mr. and Mrs. Gladstone will entertain at luncheon at Hawarden Castle to-morrow the band of the Royal Welsh Fusiliers which played at the Wrexham Eisteddfod.

The vicarage of St. Michael and All Angels, Blackheath, has been conferred on the Rev. Arthur Evelyn Barnes Lawrence, vicar of St. Luke's, Liverpool.

Herr Bardeleben, chess champion of Germany, will play six blindfold games simultaneously at the Zukertort Chess Club, 217, City-road, E.C., this evening, at 8 P.M.

The Duke of Cambridge arrived in Edinburgh to-day, and inspected the military in the city. He was accompanied by Sir Redvers Buller, General Clarke, and Colonel FitzGeorge. He will go to Forth Bridge to-morrow, and be in Glasgow on Friday.

The Prince of Wales left Vienna last night by special train to attend the manœuvres in Croatia.

The Bonapartists are said to be much chagrined at seeing Prince Victor boycotted by his family and excluded from the Turin festivities.

Queen Nathalie of Servia was present yesterday at the Te Deum in Bucharest in honour of the fête of the Emperor Alexander. The Queen starts at an early date for Sinaia to visit the King and Queen of Roumania.

The Commissioner on the Transvaal border has reported that Dinizulu has surrendered to the Transvaal authorities, on the assurance that he will not be handed over to the English. At present he is said to be ill.

Serious floods are reported from the Engadine, the village of St. Moritz being under water. Landslips and falls of rocks are also reported. Further devastation has also been caused by the floods in Austria.

The mayor and corporation of Hereford attended service at the cathedral yesterday, preliminary to the opening of the Three Choirs Festival. The Rev. Sir F. G. Ouseley preached. In the afternoon the festival commenced with the performance of the "Elijah," and in the evening Sir A. Sullivan conducted his latest cantata, "The Golden Legend."

The Superintendent of Finchley Cemetery, a publican named Durnford, was taken into custody last night on the charge of falsifying the books of the Burial Board. He will be brought before the Clerkenwell magistrate to-day.

The headmastership of the Townsville (Queensland) Grammar School has been conferred upon Mr. C. H. Hodges, M.A., one of the masters of Rugby, who leaves for Australia at the end of the year. The Bishop of North Queensland, of whose diocese Townsville is the cathedral city, has made this appointment, acting for the trustees.

THIS DAY'S MONEY MARKET.

Half-past One.

HOME RAILWAYS BUOYANT.—OTHER DEPARTMENTS QUIET.

There is no fresh feature of interest in the Money Market this morning. The anticipation of further large withdrawals of gold from the Bank of England for South America continues to influence operators in their transactions, and some brokers quote 2⅞ to 3 per cent. as the rate for three months' bank paper. Little business, however, is secured at the higher quotation. Day-to-day money is not much wanted, and the charge for it is not more than 2 per cent. To-morrow, however, it is expected that the poverty of the market will be revealed by the demands consequent on the payments on the Stock Exchange, and large applications for assistance at the Bank of England are looked for.

Operators in Stock Exchange securities are still occupied to some extent with the settlement arrangements, and except in the Home Railway market the amount of new business entered into is not large. Consols and other high-class investment stocks are firm, notwithstanding the indications of dearer money. The market for British Railway stocks has been favourably affected by the improvement in the weather, satisfactory traffic returns, and the reports from trade centres, and values are again all higher, especially so in the case of the goods-carrying lines. The North Eastern Company's receipts show an increase for last week of £9,002, the Midland of £6,990, and the Sheffield Company of £365. Hull and Barnsley stock has been bought on an increase of £338 in the traffic, and shows a more than fractional rise. The only feature in the department for Foreign Government Bonds is the continued inquiry for the two Peruvian loans. In other directions there is hardly anything doing, and the variations are insignificant. American Railroad securities are firm in response to the improvement in New York yesterday, but the changes are slight. Milwaukee and St. Paul shares are quiet, pending the result of to-day's meeting of the directors, and the price shows a slight advance. Union Pacific shares have been bought, and Wabash Mortgage bonds have improved. Lake Shore shares, however, show the chief advance. Grand Trunk of Canada stocks and Mexican Railway shares have fallen slightly. Anglo-American Telegraph descriptions are again higher, but otherwise, except for a relapse in Guinness stock, Miscellaneous markets are inactive.

The following are the prices compared with yesterday's closing:—

In Home Railways.—*Advanced*: Hull and Barnsley and Midland 1 each, North Western, 1½, Caledonian and Great Western ⅞, Great Eastern, South Western, and Sheffield Deferred ¼, Brighton Deferred and North Eastern ⅜, Chatham Preference, District, and South Eastern Deferred ¼.

Among Foreign Stocks.—*Advanced*: French Four and a Half per Cents. and Uruguay ¼, Hungarian Gold and Russian 1873 ⅛, Peruvian 1870 ⅛, and the 1872 3·16. *Declined*: Egyptian Unified and Italian ⅛.

American Railroads.—*Risen*: Lake Shore ¾, Ohio and Mississippi Ordinary ½, Denver Preference and New York, Pennsylvania, and Ohio First Mortgage ⅜, Louisville and Nashville and Milwaukee and St. Paul ¼, Ontario shares, Union Pacific shares, and Wabash Mortgage ¼, Central Pacific, Erie shares, and Northern Pacific Preference ⅛. *Fallen*: Missouri, Kansas, and Texas ¼, and Norfolk and Western Preference ⅛.

As regards Canadian and Foreign Railways.—*Lower*: Grand Trunk First Preference ½, the Guaranteed ⅜, the Second and Third Preference ¼, the Ordinary 1-16, Canada Pacific ⅛, Mexican First Preference ⅛, and Nitrate shares ⅛.

Anglo-American Telegraph Ordinary Stock is up 1½, the Preferred ¼, Direct U.S. Cable ¼, Suez Canal ¼, Hotchkiss Shares ⅛, and Rio Tinto and Mysore 1-16, but Guinness Ordinary Stock is 2½ down.

Messrs. Louis Cohen and Sons will receive subscriptions for an issue of £800,000 5 per Cent. Debentures of the Macahé and Campos Railway Company, secured by a first mortgage on the whole of the existing property of the company. Interest is payable half-yearly, on January 1 and July 1 in each year in London, the first coupon for six months' interest being payable January 1, 1889. The debentures are redeemable at par within thirty-seven years by an accumulative sinking fund of 1 per cent. per annum, operating by annual drawings, the first drawing taking place in May, 1889. The price of issue is £94 per cent. The application list will be closed on or before September 14.

LIVERPOOL COTTON MARKET.—The business continues good at firm prices. Sales 12,000. Futures two points higher for the current month, but unchanged for other positions. There are no tenders.

The following are this day's 1 o'clock prices of the principal Stocks and Shares:—

BRITISH FUNDS, ETC.			Brighton (Ordinary)	140	2	London and County	85 6
Consols	100¼	½	Do. A	127¼	8	Union of London	40 1
New Consols 2¾	98⅛	⅜xd	Chatham (Ordinary)	21⅛	⅛	London and West.	68½ 7⅛
Reduced 3 p. c.	99⅜	100 xd	Do. Preference	102½	3	London Joint Stock	39½ 40½
Local Loan Stock	102½	3 xd	North Western	176¼	⅞	Nat. Prov. of Eng.	42⅛ 3½
New 2¾ per Cent	94⅛	5¼ xd	South Western	137	8	Stan. & Chk. S. Afric	50 1
India 3½ per Cent.	101⅛	5 xd	Manchester & Shef	69	71	MINES	
Do. 4½ p. c. Rst	72⅛	⅜x int.	Do. A	33¼	9	Indian Consolidated	5 16 7 16
Egyptian Guar.	100	½xd	Met. Consolidated	75¼	¼	Mysore shares	3⅛ ¼
Met. Bd. Wks. 5¼	111½	17 xd	Do. Land Stock	70½	1¼	Ooregums	1 5 16 7 16
Do. 3 p. c. Scrip	102	3	Do. District	35	½	Cape Copper	4⅞ 5¼
Birmingham Crp. Stk.	110	11	Midland	133½	¼	Namaqua	3 ⅜
Liverpool	110¼	¾xd	North British	118⅜	19⅜	Mason and Barry	1⅛ ⅛
FOREIGN STOCKS.			North Eastern	140½	1	Rio Tinto	22¼ ⅛
Argentine 6 p. c.	100	2	North Stafford	111	13	Montana £1 shares	1 0 16 1 1 16
Do. Hard Dols	70	71	South Eastern	131	3	De Beers	31⅛ 2
Do. Treasury	98⅛	9⅝	Do. Deferred	10½	½	Kimberley Cent.	3⅝ 6
Austrian Gold	91	3	FOREIGN RAILWAYS			TELEGRAPHS AND TELEPHONES	
Do. Silver	55	8	Canada Pacific	55	¼	Anglo-American	41¼ 2¼
Brazilian 1875	102⅝	3⅛	Can. Pacific Shares	37½	8	Do. Pref.	70 1
B. Ayres 6 p. c.	102	4	Chic. Mil. and St. P	73⅛	¼	Brazilian Submarine	13 ¼
Do. Cedulas I.	63¼	¼	Denver & R. Grande	20¾	1	Direct Unit. States	9⅛ ¼
Chilian 4½ p.c. 1885	100	2	Do. Pref.	53⅛	¼	Eastern	12⅛ ⅝
Costa Rica A	91½	2¼	Illinois Shares	122¾	¼	Ditto Extension	1⅜ ¼
Do. B	90	1	Lake Shore	101⅛	⅝	United Telephone	13¼ ½
Egypt. State Dom.	101½	2	Ohio & Mississipp.	25⅞	⅛	Globe Teleg. Trust	7 ¼
Do. Unified	84⅜	⅛	Louis. and Nash	62	½	TRAMWAYS ETC	
Do. Preference	102¼	3	Mex. Cen. Bonds	67¼	8¼	London Gen. Om.	185 90
Do. Daira Sanier	80	¼	Do. Nat "A"	63¼	¼	London Street	11 12
French 3 p.c. Rnts	82¼	3¼	Miss. Kan. & Texas	13⅛	14	London Tramway	13 14
Do. 4½ p.c. Rnts	104	½	N. Y. Cen. Share	111¼	12¼	North Metropolitan	15 17
Greek 5 p.c. 1881	79½	80¼	New York Ontario	17¼	18	WATERWORKS.	
Hung. Gold Rente	83⅜	⅛	Erie Shares	30½	¼	Chelsea Waterworks	253 63
Italian	96⅛	⅜	Do. Sec. Mort.	103¼	4¼	East London	197 202
Mexican Converted	39¼	40	Norfolk & West. Pre	58½	9	Grand Junction	124 8
Peruvian 5 p.c. 7-	15	⅛	N. Y. P. & O. 1st M.	40⅜	¼	Kent	269 74
Do. 6 p.c.	25⅛	⅜	North. Pacific Pref	65	⅛	Lambeth	259 64
Portuguese	64	¼	Pennsylvania Sh.	57⅛	⅛	New River, New	347 52
Russian 1873	93⅛	⅝	Phil. and Read. Sh	27⅛	⅞	S'thwrk. & Vauxhal	103 8
Spanish 4 p. c.	74⅜	⅛	Union Pacific Shares	63	½	W. Middlesex	264 9
Turkish 1854	100	2	Wabash Preferred	28⅛	⅛	GAS AND ELECTRIC LIGHT.	
Group 1	25⅛	¼	Do. Gen. Mort.	45	¼	Gaslight & Coke A	252 6
Group 2	15⅛	¼	Grand Trunk Sh.	11	⅛	Imp. Continental	208 11
Groups 3 and 4	15⅛	⅜	Do. First Pref.	65½	¼	South Metropolitan	306 11
4½ p. c. 1871	85¼	7¼	Do. Second Pref	41¼	5¼	Brush Elec. Lt. (£4 pd)	2¾ 3¼
5 p. c. Defence	97⅞	8⅛	Do. Third Pref.	25⅞	6⅛	MISCELLANEOUS.	
5 p. c. Priority	83	5	Do. Guaranteed	69¼	70	Allsopp	8¼ ⅛
Uruguay Unified	73¼	¼	Mexican Ordinary	49⅜	⅝	Guinness and Co.	307½ 10
Virginia Funded	41½	2⅛	Do First Pref	121¼	2¾	Hotchkiss	9⅝ ⅞
U.S. 4½ p.c.	108½	9¼	Ob. do. and Pref	82	½	Bryant and May	12¼ 13
BRITISH RAILWAYS			Lombardo-Venetian	8⅞	9	Spratt's Patent	9½ ¾
Caledonian	113¼	½	Varna 3 per cent	7⅛	⅛	P. and O. Steam	64 6
Great Eastern	70⅜	⅜	Nitrate Railway	25½	6	Royal Mail Steam	63 6
Great Northern	117	18	BANKS.			Nat. Discount Co.	11¼ ¼
Ditto A	104½	5¼	Alliance Bank	13¾	14¼	Hudson's Bay	20 ⅛
Great Western	147⅛	¼	City Bank	20½	1½	Suez Canal	87¼ 8¼
Hull and Barnsley	42¾	¼	Consolidated Bank	7¾	8¼	E. & W. Ind. Dock	25 7
Lanc. and York	118	19	Imperial Ottoman	11¼	⅛	London and St. K.	42 6

DIAMOND WEDDING OF THE DUKE AND DUCHESS OF BAVARIA.

The Duke and Duchess Maximilian of Bavaria celebrated last Sunday the sixtieth anniversary of their wedding. All her children were with her excepting the ex-Queen of Naples, who is with her father at Munich. The German Emperor telegraphed a message, in which he said :—

From my heart I tender to your Royal Highnesses the most cordial congratulations of myself and the Empress on the rare and beautiful festival which you to-day celebrate. . . . . I cannot but feel cordial sympathy with a celebration which unites all who are near and dear to your Royal Hignesses in the wish that the evening of your lives may be tranquil and rich in happiness as their day has been rich in blessing, and also that your Royal Highnesses may remain among us for long years to come, to the joy of your relatives, of whom I am one.

The Empress Frederick also telegraphed her congratulations.

A CREDULOUS GENTLEMAN'S IDEAS ABOUT STANLEY.

M. Greffulhe, a French explorer of Africa, formerly secretary to the French Consul at Zanzibar, has stated, in answer to questions addressed to him by a reporter of the *Siècle*, that he does not believe in the death of Mr. Stanley, but is convinced that the eminent explorer is charged to annex for England the countries which have remained neutral after the Berlin Conference, and that the countries which have remained neutral after the Berlin Conference, and that the rumour of the death of Mr. Stanley has been spread only to find out the colonial competition. According to M. Greffulhe, who appears to be of a credulous turn of mind, English policy will profit by the mystery which is maintained about the journey of Mr. Stanley.

A KING WHOSE LIFE MUST BE A BURDEN.

A curious incident is reported from Seoul, the capital of Corea, which has caused much surprise and conjecture in official quarters there. Mr. Walters, the British Consul-General, being about to leave the Peninsula, was requested by the King to call and see him. Mr. Walters expressed his readiness to do so, but explained that as his official uniform was packed up and despatched with his baggage, he would have to wear evening dress. To this the King consented. At the appointed time Mr. Walters attended at the palace, but after being kept waiting a considerable time he was informed that the King declined to receive him. It appears now that a Mr. Denny, an American, who has acted as foreign adviser to the King, knowing nothing of the previous correspondence between Mr. Walters and the King, counselled the latter not to receive the Consul-General in plain dress, and the King, apparently without explanation, accepted the advice, with the result above stated. There is probably not a potentate in the world who is so perpetually in hot water as the ruler of Corea ; what with insurrections, riots in his capital, assaults on his palace, differences with foreign envoys, the Chinese pulling one way, the Japanese another, his Court split up into antagonistic sections, and foreign advisers who add to his difficulties, his life must be a burden.

A SINGULAR NAVAL INVENTION.

A Russian newspaper states that at the last naval manœuvres before Kiel an application of a swimming dress was made which has been tried till now only in the German navy. The dress is like a diver's dress, made of indiarubber, and double. On the chest is a valve through which air is blown into the interior of the dress, which covers the whole body and leaves only the face bare. To prevent the swimmer from being too much tossed about by the sea, the space round the chest is well filled with air. About the hips the swimmer wears a girdle, which divides the dress into two parts, to prevent a too great loss of air if the dress were torn about the legs, and consequent difficulty in swimming. The swimmer wears shoes with leaden soles to secure his equilibrium, and for his defence a long knife which is fastened to the girdle. The swimmers are employed for the blowing up of mines and hostile craft, and are provided with an explosive box, which they have to fasten to the mine or craft and to set on fire. Before the explosion ensues they are out of the reach of danger. During the attack on the harbour of Kiel, on the 29th of last month, swimmers were despatched from the armour-clad squadron to destroy the mines.

A WOMAN'S ARM FOUND IN THE THAMES.

Yesterday afternoon a man named Moore found a human arm among some mud in a wood dock off Grosvenor-road. Having secured the limb, he carefully examined the immediate vicinity, but failing to find any more human remains, he took up the arm, carried it to the Embankment, and handed it over to a police-constable. The arm was taken to the police-station, where a doctor decided that it was that of a well-formed, tall young woman, probably about twenty-five years of age. It had been cut off at the shoulder with some sharp instrument, and the question naturally arose whether this was the work of a professional anatomist or of a murderer. The doctor did not express a positive opinion either way, but said that the work had been neatly done. Some skill, too, had been shown in the manner in which the limb had been removed from the trunk, but the handiwork was scarcely good enough for a person acquainted with the principles of anatomy. The flesh was comparatively fresh, and was not quite free from blood, but it appears to have been in the water two or three days. The arm had most probably been removed from the trunk after death, and it bore no bruises or sign of violent usage. The river was subsequently dragged, but no more human remains were found ; nor have the police as yet come into the possession of any clue.

THERMOMETER. FORECAST ISSUED AT 11 A.M. TO-DAY. BAROMETER.

South England (with London and Channel).—Calms and variable airs ; fine, cold at night, with fog.

WEATHER AT NOON TO-DAY, September 12, 1888.—Cool, calm, and bright.
Readings by NEGRETTI and ZAMBRA'S *Instruments.*

THE SECRET OF SUCCESS.—"IMPORTANT TO ALL."—"A new invention is brought before the public, and commands success. A score of abominable imitations are immediately introduced by the unscrupulous, who, in copying the original closely enough to deceive the public, and yet not so exactly as to infringe upon legal rights, exercise an ingenuity that, employed in an original channel, could not fail to secure reputation and profit."—Adams. Caution : Examine each bottle, and see that the capsule is marked "ENO'S FRUIT SALT." Without it you have been imposed on by a worthless imitation. Sold by all chemists. Prepared only at ENO'S FRUIT SALT WORKS, London, S.E., by J. C. Eno's Patent.

REVENUE RECEIPTS.

The receipts on account of revenue from the 1st of April, 1888, when there was a balance of £7,647,072, to September 8, 1888, were £34,100,568, against £33,944,535 in the corresponding period of the preceding financial year, which began with a balance of £5,950,107. The net expenditure was £37,067,349, against £36,781,636 to the same date in the previous year. The Treasury balances on September 8, 1888, amounted to £2,217,238, and at the same date in 1887 to £2,499,006.

KILLED BY A FALLING SHOVEL.—Matthew Waddleton, a Liskeard miner, was at his work a day or two ago, when he was struck on the head by a falling shovel. He walked to a neighbouring surgery, to have the wound dressed, the injury not appearing at all serious ; but subsequently inflammation set in, and deceased, after remaining unconscious for two days, died yesterday.

MADAME PATTI.—Mdme. Adelina Patti has intimated to the secretary of the Swansea Hospital that she will give a grand concert in the Albert Hall at Swansea on October 11 for the benefit of that institution and other local charities. This is the third or fourth concert which the prima donna has given for the same object, and by which several thousand pounds have been raised.

A SCHOOLMASTER CHARGED WITH MURDER.—The Cardiff police have arrested a local schoolmaster named James Morgan on a charge of murdering his wife. It is stated that they had lived unhappily for several years, and that latterly both of them had given way to drink. It is suspected that poison was the agent employed. Both the man and the woman were respectably connected, their fathers being clergymen of the Church of England.

A LARGE GIFT FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE CLERGY.—Mrs. Charles Turner, of Liverpool, has placed at the disposal of the Archbishop of York the sum of £20,000, towards the creation of a fund for assisting with pensions the clergy of the diocese who may have become unfit for the discharge of their duties through infirmity. Mrs. Turner made an equal gift to Liverpool some time ago for the same benevolent purpose.

DISASTROUS EXPLOSION OF A BOILER.—A fatal accident occurred yesterday on the estate belonging to the Comte de Bondy at Ciron, near Blois. The boiler of a traction engine exploded, killing outright eight of the men at work round the thresher, and inflicting serious injuries on five more, two of whom are not expected to recover. The catastrophe is ascribed to the inexperience of the engine-tenter, who is among the killed.

A NINTH POISONING CASE.—An inquest was held at Liverpool yesterday on the body of Bridget Walsh, fifty-six, a widow, who committed suicide by taking carbolic acid. She had been fretting because her daughter's husband was out of work. She purchased some carbolic acid, saying it was to disinfect a dirty house. A verdict of temporary insanity was returned. This is the ninth case of carbolic poisoning recently in Liverpool, all the victims being women.

LAWN TENNIS AT EASTBOURNE.—The Lawn Tennis Tournament at Devonshire Park, Eastbourne, concluded yesterday in the presence of an immense crowd. The final round of the Ladies' Handicap, after some exciting play, resulted in a victory for Mrs. Hillyard. At the distribution of prizes last evening the general manager of the tournament stated that, in addition to the challenge cup, £250 had been given in prizes, and that over £100 had been taken as entrance fees. Renshaw is not among the prize-winners this year.

METROPOLITAN PAUPERISM.—The weekly return of metropolitan pauperism shows that the total number of paupers relieved in the first week of the current month was 91,565, of whom 55,163 were indoor and 36,402 outdoor paupers. The total number relieved shows an increase of 2,932 over the corresponding week of last year, 4,289 over 1886, and 6,264 over 1885. The total number of vagrants relieved on the last day of the week was 984, of whom 807 were men, 162 women, and 15 children under sixteen.

ATTEMPT TO SHOOT A CLERGYMAN.—Late on Monday night an outrage was committed at Abbey parish church manse, Arbroath. The Rev. Andrew Douglas, parish minister, and Mrs. Douglas were sitting in the study when four shots from a revolver were fired through the window. One bullet pierced Mrs. Douglas's skirt, another passed just over her shoulder, and the third bullet barely missed Mr. Douglas's head. Several volumes in a bookcase were damaged. No reason is assignable for the outrage.

THE PARNELL COMMISSION.—The preliminary meeting of the Commissioners under the Special Commission Act, 1888, will take place on Monday next, at eleven o'clock, and will be held in Probate Court I. of the Royal Courts of Justice, when the Commissioners (Sir James Hannen, Mr. Justice Day, and Mr. Justice A. L. Smith) will attend and hear any applications by any party entitled to attend before them under the provisions of the above-named Act by their counsel, solicitor, or in person.

ROBBERY OF JEWELS.—On Monday night Dewhurst Lodge, Wadhurst, Sussex, was entered from the verandah, and a large quantity of jewellery stolen from Mrs. Gee's bedroom, the ransacked cases being left in disorder about the room. At ten o'clock the housemaid took up some hot water, when, on trying the door, it was found to be locked. It is thought that the thieves were then disturbed, as the room on being entered was found in great confusion, and a secret drawer in one large jewel-case, which had been forced open, was left full of rings, &c. No clue to the thief has yet been obtained.

TWO MEN KILLED ON A SCOTCH RAILWAY.—A serious accident occurred last night at Kintore, on the Great North of Scotland Railway, thirteen miles from Aberdeen. A heavy goods train from Aberdeen to Alford had been taken past Kintore station, and the engine was detached for the purpose of shunting. The waggons, being left on the incline, started off and dashed into a siding, afterwards crashing through the end of the station. Two young men, bakers, who were travelling in the guard's van, were killed. The line is much damaged.

ASPHYXIATED ON THE "CAMPERDOWN."—A stoker named Bampton, belonging to the barbette ship *Camperdown*, has just died at Haslar Hospital from asphyxiation. Last Thursday he and another stoker were ordered to inspect one of the boilers on board, which had been closed for some time. After lime or burning charcoal has been used for the purpose of drying the interior a deleterious gas forms in the boiler, and it is customary to lower a lighted candle inside to ascertain its condition before any one is allowed to enter the manholes, the extinction of the light showing that foul air has accumulated. Bampton entered the boiler without having tested its condition, and was rescued in an almost moribund state from suffocation, to which he ultimately succumbed.

TO STOUT PEOPLE.—*Sunday Times* says:—"Mr. Russell's aim is to eradicate, to cure the disease, and that his treatment is the true one seems beyond all doubt. The medicine he prescribes does not ower, but builds up and tones the system." Book (116 pages) with recipe and notes how to pleasantly and rapidly cure obesity (average reduction in first week is 3 lb.) post free eight stamps.—F. C. RUSSELL, Woburn House, Store-street, Bedford-square, London, W.C.

MR. BRADLAUGH'S LEGAL EXPENSES.

We have received the following subscriptions since our last list:—

P. Nicholls	£5	0	0
From the Lord Lieutenant of a Welsh County	2	2	0
G. C. S.	2	0	0
Friends at Darlington	1	6	0
Dr. Pankhurst	1	1	0
A Religious Agnostic	1	1	0
E. H. Mannering	1	0	0
J. B. M.	0	10	0
W. Hazlitt	0	3	6

To the EDITOR *of the* PALL MALL GAZETTE.

DEAR SIR,—I enclose £2 towards the fund that is being raised for the defraying of some of Mr. Bradlaugh's legal expenses. If in the retrospects of the last ten or twenty years there is one thing more than another which causes lovers of humanity and its progress a most peculiar pride and pleasure, it is the thought of the wise and courageous manner in which Mr. Bradlaugh, at times almost single-handed, fought in the later stages of the long struggle for religious equality and freedom. He has made his name a household word with thousands.—Yours truly,

G. C. S.

September 11.

To the EDITOR *of the* PALL MALL GAZETTE.

SIR,—I shall be glad if you will add the enclosed guinea to the fund for paying off the remainder of Mr. Bradlaugh's debt. I am one of those who will be relieved when his bill becomes law. I have called myself "A Religious Agnostic," because while I am ignorant on the subject of a First Cause and the continuation of personal consciousness after death, I am not without a sincere religious belief. The following are two of its articles:—1. Every man seeks happiness just as surely as a flower seeks the sun. 2. Man's highest happiness consists in doing what in his inmost heart he believes he ought to do. It ought, it seems to me, to be contrary to any man's religious belief to go through a (to him) unmeaning form with an affectation of solemnity, or a form which means one thing to him and another in intention and to the onlookers. The persons who should, however, give most liberally and in the greatest number to the Bradlaugh fund, and, in fact, make it a splendid testimonial, are undoubtedly the Christians who will no longer be required to do what their Lord has clearly forbidden. Not long ago, acting on Mr. Robert Louis Stevenson's published advice, I I read carefully the Gospel according to St. Matthew, trying to do so as though I had never read it before. I could find nothing which modified in the slightest degree the command "Swear not at all." Commentators, it is true, observe that the words cannot mean what they say, because St. Paul, in his Epistles, swears twice. This was no help to me.—Yours faithfully,

A RELIGIOUS AGNOSTIC.

September 10.

To the EDITOR *of the* PALL MALL GAZETTE.

DEAR SIR,—I have pleasure in sending you sundry small subscriptions to the two funds you are helping. They are, for the most part, from members of the Society of Friends, who, though they may be divided on the Irish question, should, I think, heartily support Mr. Bradlaugh in his noble work on the Oaths question. The P.O. order is made payable to yourself, and the several names, with amounts contributed, are given on the other side. Kindly insert them in to-morrow's *Pall Mall Gazette*, and oblige.—Yours truly,

18, *Cleveland-parade, Darlington, Sept.* 11. WALTER W. WILLMOTT.

	Bradlaugh Fund. s.	d.	Parnell Fund. s.	d.
Dickinson, Chas.	2	6	—	
Eglin, J. B.	1	0	—	
Fox, David	5	0	—	
Gibbs, G. S.	2	6	2	6
Glaister, J. W.	2	6	—	
Parker, W. C.	—		5	0
Robson, J. H.	2	6	2	6
Webster, Jos.	2	6	2	6
Wheeler, Alec.	2	6	—	
Willmott, W. W.	2	6	2	6
Robinson, Robert	2	6	2	6
	26	0	17	6

Received by treasurer direct:—

H. Swinburne Hunham	£25	0	0
R. B. C.	5	0	0
Edward Heaton	2	2	0
Mrs. Eva M'Laren	2	2	0
Some Compositors at Messrs. R. K. Burt and Co.'s per H. G. Richardson — 87 subscribers	2	0	10
C. F. Hardy	2	0	0
E. A. Beard	2	0	0
John James	0	10	6
P. Y. Barnes	0	10	0
Brothers J. and G. Scarrott	0	10	0
A. Ellgad and Friends	£0	7	6
R. I.	0	5	0
R. Gibbon	0	5	0
C. and J. Fitch	0	5	0
E.	0	5	0
John Sharples	0	2	6
F. C. Barker	0	2	6
Mrs. Barker	0	2	6
E. Burdge	0	2	6
Geo. Whitehead	0	2	6
M. A. Whitehead	0	2	6
German Radical	0	2	6
Jer. Collins	0	1	0

Received through Editor of *Pall Mall Gazette*	£11	16	6
Received through Mr. Bradlaugh	85	16	6
Received through the *Star*	8	5	0
Received by treasurer to date	£1039	6	4

THE PARNELL DEFENCE FUND.

We have received the following additional subscriptions to the Parnell Defence Fund:—

P. Nicholls	£10	0	0
An Irish Protestant	2	0	0
E. H. Mannering	2	0	0
James Tagg	1	1	0
Dr. Pankhurst	1	1	0
Friends at Darlington	0	17	6

THE LAW AND LIBERTY LEAGUE.—AN APPEAL.

To the EDITOR *of the* PALL MALL GAZETTE.

SIR,—The work which has been carried on by the above organization only needs to be more widely known to attract large public support, and we ask the publicity you can give us for a few examples of the kind of work done by it. The families of all the prisoners who were the victims of the police in November last in connection with the meetings in Trafalgar-square and Hyde Park have been maintained in the homes in which their husbands left them, so that each prisoner, on regaining his liberty, found wife, children, and home as he had left them. Only two families now remain on our hands. But more important than this is the persistent and ordinary work of the League. Legal advice is gratuitously given to the poor, and every week sees poor persons aided and saved from loss by this advice. Legal aid is given to persons too poor to engage it for themselves, and much injustice is thus prevented.

We subjoin a few cases. R——, a coal merchant's labourer, was dismissed without notice, or wages in lieu of notice; this was an attempt to introduce among a large number of men the right of sudden dismissal; the L. L. L. took out a summons for wages due; the money was paid into court, and the right of notice has not been again challenged in that locality. Among several cases in which the right of an injured employé to compensation has been secured by the prompt advice of the League, is one of a boy of thirteen, killed in consequence of the gross negligence of the employer, who offered a paltry £26 as compensation. The mother being too poor to bring an action, the League is providing her with legal assistance. An apprentice, half through his time, was turned away by his master, who thought himself secure against the enforcement of his contract in consequence of the poverty of the boy's parents; the League employed a solicitor for him. These are samples of many cases dealt with. The system of fines and illegal deductions from wages has been put an end to in many places by the vigorous action taken by the League. The withdrawal of the by-law of the Metropolitan Board of Works forbidding collections on open spaces has been obtained by the action of the L. L. L., co-operating with other bodies interested. The League has, in fact, become a consulting and assisting body for the poor people oppressed because they are ignorant and poor. It supplies a protection to the poor which has long been needed, and gives them free of charge the justice which the rich obtain by their purses. The office expenses of the League are nil, all services being gratuitously rendered, so that every shilling given goes directly to the legal protection of the poor. Our power of supplying legal assistance is, however, obviously circumscribed by our means, and we confidently appeal to the public to help us with donations and subscriptions to carry on our work. We make the appeal now, as several legal cases are waiting until our exchequer is replenished, one of these being the case of the mother who seeks compensation for the loss of her only son.

Subscriptions may be sent to either of us, or to the secretary of the L. L. L., 34, Bouverie-street, Fleet-street, E.C.—We are, Sir, your obedient servants,

(Signed) S. D. HEADLAM, 31, Upper Bedford-place, W.C.
A. STEARN, West Marylebone Radical Club, 35, Bell-street, Edgware-road, W.
(Members of the executive.)

September 11.

A ROMAN CATHOLIC "ROBERT ELSMERE."

The Rev. W. E. Addis, M.A., one of the few Roman Catholic priests distinguished for theological research, classical erudition, and literary power, has resigned his ecclesiastical preferment and withdrawn from the Papal communion. Mr. Addis, after a brilliant classical career at Oxford, entered the Roman Catholic Church and became a Father in the Brompton Oratory. During the last ten years he has been the Roman Catholic incumbent of Sydenham. Beloved and esteemed among his clerical brethren and parishioners, his name is familiar to the literary world as the joint editor of, and chief contributor to, "The Catholic Dictionary," a work of merit which has passed through several editions, and ranks as an authority. It may be interesting to remark that his coadjutor in the editorship was Thomas Arnold, Matthew Arnold's Roman Catholic brother, whose daughter, Mrs. Humphry Ward, is so well known as the author of "Robert Elsmere." Four eminent English Oratorians have now seceded from the Roman Catholic Church—namely, Law, Galton, Hutton, and Addis. Mr. Law, the cultured librarian of the "Signet," has already published historic records of singular interest, eliciting a commendatory preface from Mr. Gladstone, and a brilliant article in the *Edinburgh*; and another work of historic research will speedily add to our indebtedness. Mr. Addis will, either in Oxford or in London, make his mark, and illustrate the higher walks of literature. In a letter of pathetic regret he has taken leave of his parishioners, and of the place wherein he has "passed the happiest days of his life."

A SESQUIPEDALIAN SENTENCE.

The following sentence—quoted by the New York *Critic* from a speech by Senator Evarts on the Fisheries Treaty—is, we imagine, about the longest and most involved on record:—

But when we come to a further and more intimate consideration of whether the power and independence and intrepidity of the Senate in regard to the concurrence with Executive power in making a treaty is to be overborne, not by the concurrent opinions that have originated and advised and approved, but under opinions now to be brought forward, changing the attitude of senators when no change in facts has happened to justify politically a change—I mean political in the sense of the policy of the United States—and when nothing has occurred in regard to the reason or the wisdom of the proposed changed attitude of the Senate, but all that has happened is that the just independence of the Executive in maintaining negotiations, in bringing them to a result, in engaging the people of the United States and its Government towards the foreign Power, by the whole Executive power; and when the consultation of the Senate and its concurrence are invited, it is found that the attitude takes the shape merely of party cohesion and of party enlistment—it is not for me to say against reason or against patriotism, but that apparently a governing and a weighty consideration is introduced into the debate, to wit, whether or not the policy of the Executive shall be adopted and approved by the Senate or shall be rejected by it: and then the votes are to be accordingly clustered, it is said, in support of the President's policy.

TO-NIGHT'S ENTERTAINMENTS.

LYCEUM THEATRE.

(Sole Lessee, Mr. HENRY IRVING.)

TO-NIGHT and EVERY EVENING, at 8.15,

Mr RICHARD MANSFIELD as
DR. JEKYLL AND MR. HYDE.

MORNING PERFORMANCE EVERY SATURDAY, at 2.30.
Box-office (Mr. J. Hurst) open daily from 10 to 5.

HAYMARKET THEATRE.

(Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. BEERBOHM TREE.)

TO-NIGHT, at 8.30 precisely, the new original Drama, by Mr. HADDON CHAMBERS, entitled "CAPTAIN SWIFT." Mr. Tree, Mr. Macklin, Mr. Kemble, Mr. Fuller Mellish, Mr. Allan, Mr. Harwood, Mr. Harrison, and Mr. Brookfield; Lady Monckton, Miss Rose Leclercq, Miss Cudmore, and Mrs. Tree. Preceded, at 7.50, by THAT DREADFUL DOCTOR. Doors open at 7.30. Box-office open daily, 10 till 5.

CRITERION THEATRE.

(Lessee and Manager, Mr. CHARLES WYNDHAM.)

BETSY, EVERY EVENING, at 9. Preceded by, at 8.10, THE DOWAGER. Doors open at 7.45. N.B.—Stage and Auditorium Lighted entirely by Electricity.

ADELPHI THEATRE.

(A. and S. GATTI, Sole Proprietors and Managers.)

THIS EVENING, at Eight, THE UNION JACK. Mr. William Terriss; Messrs. C. Cartwright, J. D. Beveridge, J. L. Shine. L. Cautley, D. Somers, H. Russell, E. Lennox, &c.; Miss Millward; Mesdames Helen Forsyth, O. Nethersole, D. Drummond, E. Bufton, and Clara Jecks. At 7.15, THE LOTTERY TICKET.

TERRY'S THEATRE.

(Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. EDWARD TERRY.)

(Acting Manager, Mr. H. T. BRICKWELL.)

The newest and coolest Theatre in London, constructed entirely with concrete and iron, absolutely fireproof, lighted throughout with electricity.

TO-NIGHT, at 8.30, A. W. PINERO'S New Three Act Domestic Drama, SWEET LAVENDER. 180th Time. Messrs. Edward Terry, Alfred Bishop, Brandon Thomas, T. C. Valentine, Bernard Gould, F. Kerr, Sant Matthews; Mesdames M. A. Victor, Carlotta Addison, Maude Millett, Eva Wilson. Doors open at 8. Carriages 11. MATINEE EVERY SATURDAY, at 2.30. Seats at the Libraries and Box-office, open from 10 to 5. Telephone 2,702.

GLOBE THEATRE.

(Lessees and Managers, Mr. EDGAR BRUCE and Miss EDITH WOODWORTH.)

THIS EVENING, at 8.45, BOOTLES' BABY. 113th Time. Messrs. Charles Sugden, C. W. Garthorne, A. Elwood, Gilbert Farquhar, Forbes Dawson, A. J. Byde, C. Kent, and Charles Collette; Mesdames Webster, Henrietta Lindley, Rose Evelyn, F. Henry, Minnie Terry. At 7.45, TRUE COLOURS. Messrs. Forbes Dawson, A. J. Byde; Mesdames Gilard and Florence Henry.

PRINCE OF WALES' THEATRE.

(Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. HORACE SEDGER.)

EVERY EVENING, at 7.40, WARRANTED BURGLAR PROOF.
At 8.30, punctually, DOROTHY. (719th Performance.)
Mesdames Marie Tempest, Florence Perry, Harriet Coveney, F. Neville, and Amy Augarde; Messrs. Ben Davies, Fisheaux Cook, Arthur Williams, J. Le Hay, S. King, and C. Hayden Coffin. Musical Director, M. Ivan Caryll. Doors open 7.30. Box-office open from 10 till 5.
MATINEE EVERY SATURDAY, at 2.30.

ITALIAN EXHIBITION.

In Concert Hall and Theatre, FRATELLI PRANDI'S MARIONETTES, "RODOPE" and "THE LIVING SKELETON," at 3 and 7.30 P.M. The NEAPOLITAN MANDOLINISTS at 4.30 and 9 P.M.

CRYSTAL PALACE.

GRAND BALLET. FAIRY SCENES of "MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM," THIS and EVERY EVENING. Marvellous Success. Arranged and produced by Madame Katti Lanner and Mr. Oscar Barrett. Can be witnessed by thousands without extra payment.

SAVOY.—Proprietor and Manager, R. D'OYLY CARTE. — THIS EVENING at 8.30, THE MIKADO, Japanese Opera. By W. S. GILBERT and ARTHUR SULLIVAN, At 7.30, MRS. JARRAMIE'S GENIE. Box-office open from 9 A.M. till 11 P.M.

SAVOY.—THE MIKADO.—THIS and EVERY EVENING, at 8.30, and SATURDAY AFTERNOON, at 2.30, until further notice.

SAVOY.—LAST WEEKS of THE MIKADO.

COMEDY THEATRE. — TO-NIGHT, at 9 o'clock, a New Farcical Comedy, in three acts, entitled UNCLES AND AUNTS, by W. LESTOCQ and WALTER EVERARD. Mr. W. S. Penley, Mr. Charles Groves, Mr. Wilfred Draycott, Mr. W. F. Hawtrey, Mr. Walter Everard, and Mr. W. Lestocq. Miss Cissy Grahame, Miss Maria Daly, Miss Caroline Elton, Miss Kate Lee, and Miss Vane Featherston. Preceded by, at 8, BARBARA. Messrs. A. G. Andrews, Norman Bent, Misses May Scarlet and Cissy Grahame.—Business Manager, Mr. E. F. BRADLEY.

UNCLES AND AUNTS, TO-NIGHT, at 9. FIRST MATINEE SATURDAY NEXT, September 15, at 3 o'clock.

NIAGARA IN LONDON. | COLOSSAL PICTURE of the GREAT FALLS, original effects, by PHILIPPOTEAUX. Pleasant Lounge, Music, American Museum, Electric Light. Refreshments by Beguinot. Admission 1s. No fees. 10 to 10.—YORK STREET, WESTMINSTER. St. James's Park Station.

THEATRE ROYAL COVENT GARDEN.—Season 1888.
FREEMAN THOMAS' SEVENTH ANNUAL SERIES of PROMENADE CONCERTS.
CLASSICAL NIGHT THIS EVENING, at 8.0. ADMISSION ONE SHILLING.
Grand Orchestra of 150 Performers and Band of the Coldstream Guards combined.
Conductor: Mr. A. GWYLLYM CROWE.
SMOKING LOUNGES IN ALL PARTS OF THE THEATRE.
Vocalists This Evening:—Miss ALICE WHITACRE and Mr. SIMS REEVES. Miss MADGE WICKHAM (Solo Violinist). Herr ARTHUR FREIDHEIM (Solo Pianoforte).
Prices of admission:—Private Boxes from 10s. 6d. to £3 3s.; Grand Circle seats (numbered and reserved), 2s. 6d.; First Circle (numbered and reserved), 2s.; Amphitheatre Stalls, Amphitheatre, and Promenade, One Shilling. Doors open 7.30; commence at 8.0. Box-office open daily 10 to 5.
NOTE.—TO-MORROW (Thursday), Vocalists:—Mdme. CLARA SAMUELL and Signor FOLI.

ALLY SLOPER and his distinguished Family, including Mrs. Sloper, Master Alexandry Sloper, Iky Moses, the Elder McNab, Mr. McGooseley, Lord Bob, and Miss Tootsie Sloper will visit
FREEMAN THOMAS'S PROMENADE CONCERTS, THEATRE, COVENT GARDEN, on FRIDAY EVENING NEXT, September 14.
TOOTSIE SLOPER'S POLKA, composed by A. GWYLLM CROWE, will be performed by special desire of THE EMINENT.

GAIETY THEATRE.—"SHE." A great success.
Manageress, Miss SOPHIE EYRE.

GAIETY.—"SHE."—A Great Success.—TO-NIGHT and EVERY EVENING at 8, a Romantic Play from the celebrated Novel of H. Rider Haggard, dramatised by permission by Mr. Edward Rose, rewritten and adapted for Miss Eyre by Mr. WILLIAM SIDNEY and CLO GRAVES. Miss Eyre, Misses Fanny Enson, Elliott, Enid Leslie, Wilson, Vyse, Graves, and Miss Mary Rorke; Messrs. Julian Cross, Edmund Gurney, E. Cleary, H. Maxwell, James East, Glyn, Wynn, and Mr. Edmund Maurice. Box-office open daily from 10 till 6. Prices from 1s. to £4 4s. Manager, Mr. EUGENE C. STAFFORD.—GAIETY THEATRE.

GAIETY.—"SHE."—Miss SOPHIE EYRE as SHE.
MATINEE SATURDAY NEXT, SEPTEMBER 15, at 2.30.

GAIETY.—"SHE."

"In earth and skie and sea
Strange thynges ther be."—"SHE."

DRURY LANE.—AUGUSTUS HARRIS, Lessee and Manager,
Will REOPEN on SATURDAY, September 22.
With a New Grand Spectacular Drama, entitled
THE ARMADA,
A Romance of 1588.
By HENRY HAMILTON and AUGUSTUS HARRIS.

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The Mystery of Cloomber.

By A. CONAN DOYLE.

"There is a scientific incredulity which surpasses in imbecility the obtuseness of the clodhopper.'
BARON HELLENBACH.

CHAPTER IV. *(continued).*

MISS HEATHERSTONE waved her hand to me with a bright smile, and tripped off up the avenue, while her brother unbolted the gate, and, passing through, closed it again, locking it upon the outside.

"I'll have a stroll down the road with you, if you have no objection. Have a manilla." He drew a couple of cheroots from his pocket and handed one to me. "You'll find they are not bad," he said. "I became a connoisseur in tobacco when I was in India. Are you lit? I hope I am not interfering with your business in coming along with you."

"Not at all," I answered. "I am very glad to have your company."

"I'll tell you a secret," said my companion. "This is the first time that I have been outside the grounds since we have been down here."

"And your sister?"

"She has never been out either," he answered. "I have given the governor the slip to-day, but he wouldn't half like it if he knew. It's a whim of his that we should keep ourselves entirely to ourselves. At least, some people would call it a whim: for my own part I have reason to believe that he has solid grounds for all that he does—though perhaps in this matter he may be a little too exacting."

"You must surely find it very lonely," said I. "Couldn't you manage to slip down at times and have a smoke with me? That house over yonder is Branksome."

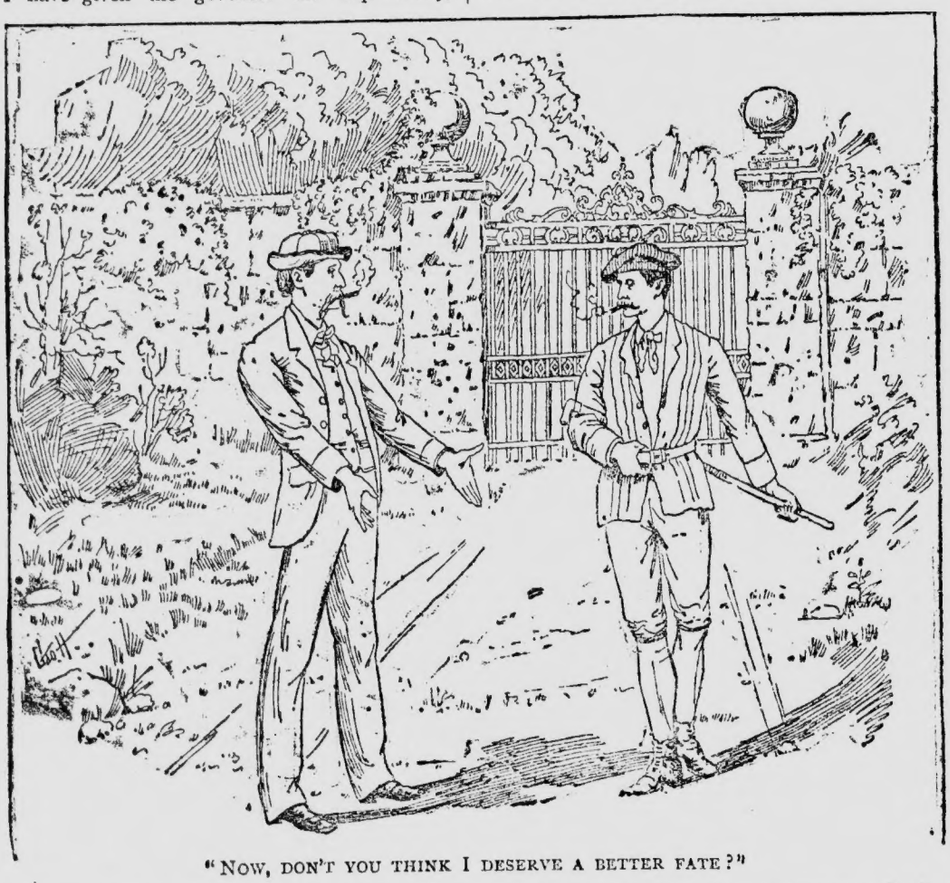
"Indeed you are very kind," he answered, with sparkling eyes. "I should dearly like to run over now and again. With the exception of Israel Stakes, our old coachman and gardener, I have not a soul that I can speak to."

"And your sister, she must feel it even more," said I, thinking in my heart that my new acquaintance made rather too much of his own troubles and too little of those of his companion.

"Yes; poor Gabrielle feels it, no doubt," he answered, carelessly; "but it's a more unnatural thing for a young man of my age to be cooped up in this way than for a woman. Look at me now. I am three-and-twenty next March, and yet I have never been to a university—nor to a school, for that matter. I am as complete an ignoramus as any of these clodhoppers. It seems strange to you, no doubt; and yet it is so. Now, don't you think I deserve a better fate?" He stopped as he spoke, and faced round to me, throwing his palms forward in appeal.

As I looked at him, with the sun shining upon his face, he certainly did seem a strange bird to be cooped up in such a cage. Tall and muscular, with a keen dark face, and sharp, finely-cut features, he might have stepped out of the canvas of Murillo or Velasquez. There was latent energy and power in his firm-set mouth, his square eyebrows, and the whole pose of his elastic, well-knit figure.

"There is the learning to be got from books and the learning to be got from experience," said I, sententiously. "If you have less of your share of the one, perhaps you have more of the other. I cannot believe that you have spent all your life in mere idleness and pleasure."



"NOW, DON'T YOU THINK I DESERVE A BETTER FATE?"

"Pleasure!" he cried. "Pleasure! Look a this." He pulled off his hat, and I saw that his black hair was all flecked and dashed with streaks of grey. "Do you imagine that this came from pleasure?" he asked, with a bitter laugh.

"You must have had some great shock," I said, astonished at the sight; "some terrible illness in your youth. Or perhaps it arises from a more chronic cause—a constant gnawing anxiety. I have known men as young as you whose hair was as grey."

"Poor devils!" he muttered, "I pity them."

"If you can manage to slip down to Branksome at times," said I, "perhaps you could bring Miss Heatherstone with you. I know that my father and my sister would be delighted to see her, and a change, if only for an hour or two, might do her good."

"It would be rather hard for us both to get away together," he answered. "However, if I see a chance I shall bring her down. It might be managed some afternoon, perhaps, for the old man indulges in a siesta occasionally." We had reached the head of the winding lane which branches off from the high road and leads up to the laird's house, so my companion pulled up. "I must go back," he said, "or they will miss me. It's very kind of you, West, to take this interest in us. I'm very grateful to you, and so will Gabrielle be when she hears of your kind invitation. It's a real heaping of coals of fire after that infernal placard of my father's."

He shook my hand and set off down the road, but he came running after me presently, calling me to stop. "I was just thinking," he said, "that you must consider us a great mystery up there at Cloomber. I dare say you have come to look upon it as a private lunatic asylum, and I can't blame you. If you are interested in the matter, I feel it is unfriendly upon my part not to satisfy your curiosity, but I have promised my father to be silent about it. And indeed if I were to tell you all that I know you might not be very much the wiser after all. I would have you understand this, however—that my father is as sane as you or I, and that he has very good reasons for living the life which he does. I may add that his wish to remain secluded does not arise from any unworthy or dishonourable motives, but merely from the instinct of self-preservation."

"He is in danger, then!" I ejaculated.

"Yes; he is in constant danger."

"But why does he not apply to the magistrates for protection?" I asked. "If he is afraid of any one, he has only to name him and they will bind him over to keep the peace."

"My dear West," said young Heatherstone, "the danger with which my father is threatened is one which cannot be averted by any human intervention. It is none the less very real, and possibly very imminent."

"You don't mean to assert that it is supernatural," I said incredulously.

"Well, hardly that either," he answered with hesitation. "But there," he continued, "I have said rather more than I should, but I know that you will not abuse my confidence. Good bye.' He took to his heels and was soon out of my sight, round a curve in the country road.

A danger which was real and imminent, not to be averted by human means, and yet hardly supernatural—here was a conundrum indeed! I had come to look upon the inhabitants of the Hall as mere eccentrics, but after what young Mordaunt Heatherstone had just told me, I could no longer doubt that some dark and sinister meaning underlay all their actions. The more I pondered over the problem, the more unanswerable did it appear, and yet I could not get the matter out of my thoughts. The lonely isolated hall, and the strange impending catastrophe which hung over its inmates, appealed forcibly to my imagination. All that evening, and late into the night, I sat moodily by the fire, pondering over all that I had heard, and revolving in my mind the various incidents which might furnish me with some clue to the mystery.

CHAPTER V.

HOW FOUR OF US CAME TO BE UNDER THE SHADOW OF CLOOMBER.

I trust that my readers will not set me down as an inquisitive busybody when I say that as the days and weeks went by I found my attention and my thoughts more and more attracted to General Heatherstone and the mystery which surrounded him. It was in vain that I endeavoured by hard work and a strict attention to the laird's affairs to direct my mind into some more healthy channel. Do what I would, on land or on the water, I would still find myself puzzling over this one question, until it obtained such a hold upon me that I felt that it was useless for me to attempt to apply myself to anything until I had come to some satisfactory solution of it. I could never pass the dark line of five-foot fencing and the great iron gate, with its massive lock, without pausing and racking my brain as to what the secret might be which was shut in by that inscrutable barrier. Yet with all my conjectures and all my observations I could never come to any conclusion which could for a moment be accepted as an explanation of the facts.

My sister had been out for a stroll one night,

visiting a sick peasant or performing some other of the numerous acts of charity by which she had made herself beloved by the whole country side. "John," she said when she returned, "have you not observed Cloomber Hall at night?"

"No," I answered, laying down the book which I was reading. "Not since that memorable evening when the General and Mr. McNeil came over to make their inspection."

"Well, John, will you put your hat on and come a little walk with me?" I could see by her manner that something had agitated or frightened her.

"Why, bless the girl!" cried I, boisterously, "what is the matter? The old hall has not gone on fire, surely? You look as grave as if all Wigtown were in a blaze."

"Not quite so bad as that," she said, smiling. "But do come out, Jack. I should very much like you to see it."

(To be continued.)

CURIOUS CUSTOMS IN BRITISH HONDURAS.

An American gentleman, residing in Belize, British Honduras, has favoured a correspondent of the *Philadelphia Record* with some description of the manners and customs of the natives in British Honduras:—

A Reception in Honduras.

A reception was held, he says, in a large arbour, erected for the purpose, of wild cane-stalks thatched with straw. As usual, the men retained their hats and smoked incessantly between and during every course. Tortillas were continually sent in, hot from the griddle—made by women secreted in a hut somewhere in the rear—and piled in a steaming heap in front of the alcadi, who distributed them around with an easy and graceful scuffle, something as an expert player deals his cards. Now and then fresh water was passed in mugs, it being the fashion for each to fill his mouth, draw it noisily to and fro between his teeth, then eject it upon the floor. The menu, as nearly as can be rendered in English, was as follows:—

Cigarettes.

Caldo (broth) with garlic, chili and cigarettes. Sopa—Stewed in grease and garnished with chili.

Cigarettes.

Pucharo—Stuff of every description, fish, flesh and fowl, seeds, pods, green fruits, root and vegetables, all boiled together, served on a huge platter, with chili sauce.

Cigarettes.

Chicken stewed with grease and chili.

Cigarettes.

Kid's head baked with garlic.

Cigarettes.

Red beans stewed in oil.

Cigarettes.

Sweetmeats and coffee, with cigarettes.

Tortillas all the time.

Jumping-Jacks in the Ball Room.

The etiquette of Santo Toribiro ball-rooms is peculiar. The ladies sit around the room, their multiplicity of stiff skirts making them look like so many Dutch cheeses, while the men remain outside in groups until the dancing is about to begin. When the first strains of the marimba—mournful and despairing as the wail of a lost soul—announced the opening of the ball, one of the sandalled and hatted gentlemen advances to the middle of the floor, on the way thereto carelessly nodding to the charmer of his choice, and she leaves her seat and goes to face him, standing a few paces distant. Then they perform a rapid zapetero, scarcely moving the body, though their feet are flying like mad, for all the world like a pair of jumping jacks, executing all manner of pigeon wings, jigs, and double shuffles. When she gets enough of dancing she returns to her seat without so much as an adios to the gallant; while he, without stopping for a moment in the everlasting jig, nods to another lady to come and play Joan to his Darby. He is expected to keep on, without an instant's pause, until the music ceases, and often it is continued a long time, as a test to the young man's endurance.

A Wake in Honduras.

It was in British Honduras that I first attended a velorio, or the ceremony of watching with a corpse. The family home consisted of a single long and narrow apartment, rounded at each end, with earthern floor and roof thatched with guano leaves. From the cross-poles hung a few hammocks, and in the middle of the room, upon a rude bier made of two boards upheld by casks, lay the dead woman, with a wee infant clasped in her arms. The face of the mother, who could not have been more than fourteen years old, was calm and peaceful, but that of the baby was strangely distorted, as if terrified with its brief look on life. Fresh flowers were scattered upon the scarlet blanket that partially covered the still figures; lighted candles stood at the head and foot, and near by sat the sisters and parents of the dead woman, silent and sad. Inquiring why the husband and father was not among the mourners, I was carelessly informed, as though it was nothing to cause remark, that *la probaerta* (the poor, dead girl) had never been wedded; and as for the father—*quien sabe?* A great crowd occupied the house of mourning, laughing and jesting as though the occasion was one of rejoicing rather than sorrow. Many were playing cards. Outside, under a pomegranate tree, refreshments were spread, and music and uproar resounded, in startling incongruity with the dread mystery of death.

Marriage Customs.

When legal marriages occur in this region the parents of the couple make all the arrangements between themselves. The tender passion takes early root in the tropics, and it is not uncommon to see a bride and groom both under fourteen years. When the boy wants to get married he tells his mother all about it. She talks with the father, and if both are willing to accept the girl as their daughter, they repair to the house of her parents, taking with them a chiquihuite of fowls, fruits, bread, ears of dried corn, and strings of peppers. They organize a sort of procession, composed of their relatives and friends, headed by a band of music, thus publicly proclaiming their intention. It is good form for the girl's mother to politely refuse the first request until she has had time to consult the maiden as to her wishes in the matter, and to find out what her own friends may think of it. She sends the procession home completely in the dark as to the result of its mission. If the answer be irrevocably unfavourable she simply sends back to the parents of the would-be lover their basket, with contents untouched. If, on the contrary, she be inclined to entertain their proposals, in the course of a week or two, she sends to them another chiquihuite filled with similar offerings.

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That there has been already expended on the properties, now mortgaged for £800,000, a sum of 16 631:497$000 or £1,801,741; and that the average net annual earnings for the past three years, namely, since the completion and acquisition of the San Antonio de Padua line, have been 6:939:895$721, equal at the exchange of 24*d*. to £63,999, or at the present exchange of 26*d*. to..... £69,325
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